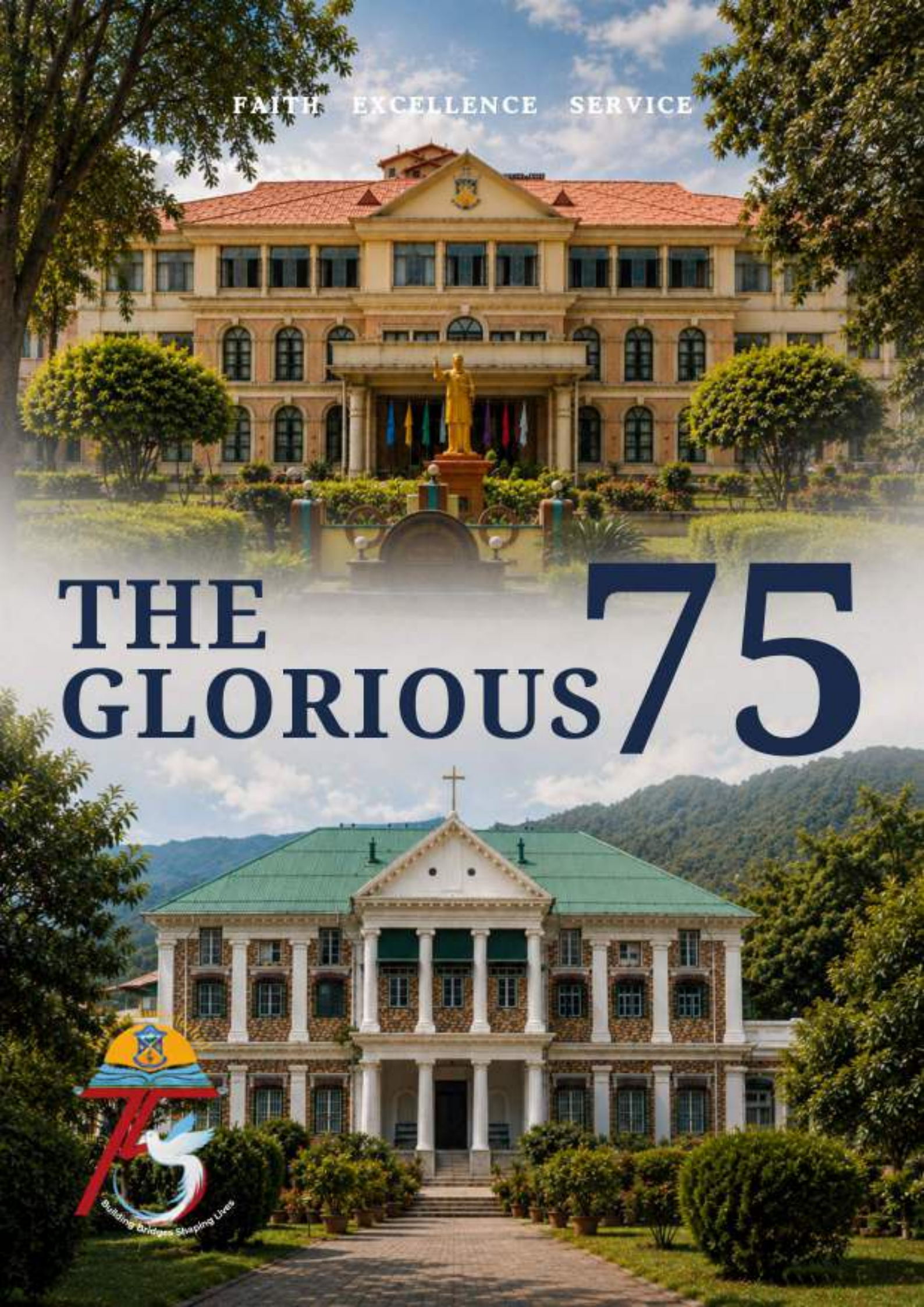

FAITH EXCELLENCE SERVICE
THE GLORIOUS 75
Building Bridges Shaping Lives

The Journey Begins!

1951-2026



1948

Jesuit fathers visiting former PM Nehru



1951

Founded



1986

King Birendra and Queen Aishwarya's first visit









2001

Former Principal Rev. Fr Lawrence Maniyar receiving Gorkha Dakshin Bahu



2003

St. Xavier's receiving the Best School Award



ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA



St. Ignatius of Loyola was the founder of the Society of Jesus. He was born in 1491 A.D. Spain. He was the youngest of 13 children. He was trained to arms and to the etiquette of court life. He was much addicted to gambling, very contentious and not above engaging in sword play on occasion. At the age of 30 in May 1521, he found himself as an officer defending the fortress of the town of Pamplona against the French, who claimed the territory as their own against Spain. He got himself enlisted in the border war with France and was badly wounded in a battle when a cannon ball struck him, wounding one leg and breaking the other. Because they admired his courage, the French soldiers carried him back to recuperate at his home, the castle of Loyola, rather than to prison.

During the long weeks of his recuperation, he read a copy of the life of Christ and a book on the saints. After reading and thinking of the saints and Christ, he was at peace and satisfied. For ten months, he stayed in a cave outside a town called Manresa where he spent hours each day in prayer and also worked in a hospice. It was while here that the ideas for what He had a vision which is regarded as the most significant in his life. The vision was more of enlightenment, an experience that enabled him to find God in all things. He founded the Society of Jesus in 1541 A.D.

He took Master's Degree from the Sorborne University, Paris. He died in 1556 A.D.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



St. Francis Xavier was born on 07.04.1506 at Navarra, Spain. He graduated from the University of Paris and later became a professor in the same University. Met St. Ignatius of Loyola in the University campus in Paris and raised questions about the ultimate aim of human life. He became one of the Founders of the Society of Jesus.

He reached Goa, India on 06.05.1542. From 1542, he traversed the length and breadth of the coastal regions of Tamil Nadu to share the "Good News". He passed away on 03.12.1552 at Sancian Island while journeying towards China. His body was brought to Goa on 16.31.1554. He was canonized on 12.31.1622. Even today his body is kept incorrupt in Goa and venerated by millions of devotees.






Photo Series: Glorious Past of Gloria










NEPAL JESUIT SOCIETY
30 JULY 1986
Left to Right
MISSING
Photo Series: Glorious Past


















Photo Series: Glorious Past of Glorious 75 years No:
34

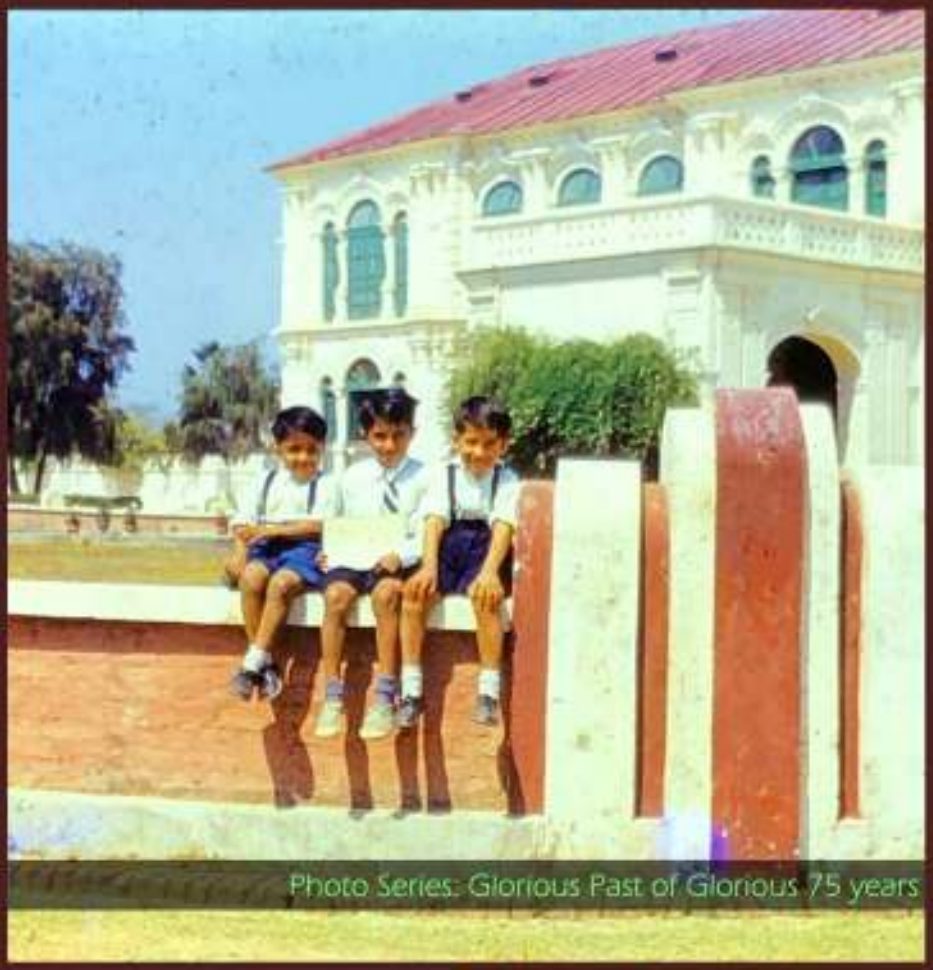











Photo Series: Glorious Past of Glorious 75 years


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विद्यालय गीत

हाम्रो प्यारो राम्रो स्कुल सेन्ट जेभियर्स, सेन्ट जेभियर्स
ज्ञानको बत्ती बालिदेऊ सेन्ट जेभियर्स, सेन्ट जेभियर्स ।

एक भएर हामी पढ्छौं हामी, एक भएर बढ्ने छौं (२)
करोड दियोको घाम बनेर देश उज्यालो पार्ने छौं (२)

अन्धकारमा बाटो देखाउ सेन्ट जेभियर्स, सेन्ट जेभियर्स ।
ज्ञानको बत्ती बालिदेऊ सेन्ट जेभियर्स, सेन्ट जेभियर्स ।

हाम्रो सानो मुट्ठीभित्र भोलीको यो देश हेर (२)
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सत्य एकता प्रेम सिकाऊ सेन्ट जेभियर्स, सेन्ट जेभियर्स।
ज्ञानको बत्ती बालिदेऊ सेन्ट जेभियर्स, सेन्ट जेभियर्स ।

रचना संगीत : गोपाल योञ्जन
संगीत संयोजन : पूर्ण नेपाली

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From the EDITORS

It is an honour for us to be collecting these snippets of seventy-five years of stories, memories and ideas that have shaped generations of Xaverians.

As St. Xavier's School celebrates its seventy-fifth aniversary, we remember the legacy that has lasted through ages and lived through histories. A legacy built not only through classrooms and hallways, but also through the countless footsteps that have passed through them.

This special edition is our attempt to pause and look back while also looking forward. Through reflections, interviews, memories and glimpses into school life, we hope to capture a small part of what makes the Xaverian experience so enduring. These pages celebrate a legacy that belongs to all of us.

Being a part of this legacy, even in the small role of writing and designing its pages, has been an incredible experience. Putting together a magazine is its own kind of craft. Finding where each story belongs, marking the pages and making words and images share the same space, sometimes even wrestling with a page until it feels right. There are moments of guessing, of rearranging and starting over, but somewhere between these pages, we created something that is perhaps bigger than ourselves in the history of St. Xavier's.

As students, we may only be a chapter in a story that started long before us, but we hope that these pages preserve not only who we are and what we represent, but also carry the stories and cultures that will shape us, no matter where we go. So, we invite you to turn these pages, not as a reader, but as a part of the story.

To seventy-five years and much more to come!

ललितपुर महानगरपालिका
मल मदानगरपालिका
Lalitpur Metropolitan City

Pulchowk, Lalitpur, Bagmati Province, Nepal



August 24, 2026

Congratulatory Message

It is a matter of great honor and privilege to extend my sincere congratulations and best wishes to St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, on the momentous occasion of its 75th Anniversary.

Established in 1951 at Godavari and subsequently extending its educational presence to Jawalakhel in 1954, St. Xavier's School has completed an inspiring journey of seven and a half decades. During this period, the institution has made a significant contribution to the development of education in Nepal through its emphasis on academic excellence, discipline, character formation, human values, and service to society.

As an institution that has been an integral part of Lalitpur for more than seven decades, St. Xavier's has made a meaningful contribution to the educational and social fabric of the city. Its enduring commitment to quality education and the holistic development of students has earned it a distinguished place in Nepal's educational history.

The 75th Anniversary is an important occasion to acknowledge the dedication and contributions of the Jesuit Fathers, administrators, teachers, staff, students, parents, alumni, and all those who have contributed to the school's distinguished legacy. The commemorative publication will serve as a valuable record of its rich heritage and remarkable journey.

On behalf of Lalitpur Metropolitan City and on my own behalf, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire St. Xavier's School family. I am confident that the institution will continue to uphold its cherished values and contribute meaningfully to the development of responsible, compassionate, and capable citizens.

I wish St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel continued success, excellence, and progress in the years ahead.

Yours truly,

Chiri Babu Maharjan
Mayor

Tel: 977-01-5440906, Fax : 977-1-5553866, Email: info@lmc.gov.np, Website: www.lmc.gov.np

गोदावरी नगरपालिका
Godawari Municipality
गोदावरी नगरपालिका
नगर कार्यपालिकाको कार्यालय
Office Of the Municipal Executive

बज्रबाराही, ललितपुर, Bajrabarahi, Lalitpur
बागमती प्रदेश, नेपाल, Bagmati Province, Nepal

प. सं / Let. No. 2083/84
च. नं. Ref. No. 447

Date : September 1, 2026



BEST WISHES

It gives me immense pleasure to extend my warmest congratulations and best wishes to St. Xavier's School, Godawari and Jawalakhel on the publication of the commemorative booklet marking the 75th Anniversary of the School.

Seventy-five years is a remarkable milestone and a testament to the institution's enduring commitment to quality education, discipline, character building, and the development of responsible and compassionate citizens. Throughout its long and distinguished journey, St. Xavier's School has made a meaningful contribution to the educational and social development of our society.

This commemorative publication is not only a reflection of the school's rich history and achievements, but also a valuable platform for students to express their creativity, ideas and aspirations. The inclusion of poems, stories, articles and other creative works by students makes this publication even more meaningful, as it encourages young minds to explore their talents, build confidence and share their perspectives.

On this historic occasion, I commend the school administration, teachers, students, parents, alumni and everyone involved in bringing this publication to life. I am confident that this commemorative book will make this special occasion even more memorable and preserve the spirit and achievements of the school for generations to come.

I extend my sincere congratulations and best wishes to the entire St. Xavier's School family on this proud milestone. May the institution continue to inspire generations of students and achieve greater excellence in the years ahead.

Congratulations on the 75th Anniversary, and my very best wishes for continued success and excellence.

Best Regards,

.....
Gajendra Maharjan
Mayor
Godawari Municipality, Lalitpur

FROM THE PROVINCIAL



I am glad that St. Xavier's School is publishing a souvenir magazine to mark the historic milestone of the school reaching seventy-five years of its existence. It is a time to look at the beginnings to reminisce all blessings received, the conception of its momentous journey when Fr Marshal Moran secured the Jawalakhel property, the presence of the first students who arrived from Godavari on foot with Fr Downing on 7 September 1954, and the commencement of classes on 8 September 1954.

We recount the blessings of magnificent buildings built to accommodate the growing number of students, the change curriculum to Nepal's Educational System from that of Senior Cambridge in 1971, and the entry of female students in 2000. We graciously remember the sacrifices of the founders Fr Marshal Moran, Fr Downing, Fr E.J. Niesen, and the principals who guided this blessed institution.

As St. Xavier's School, Jawalekhel continues its inventiveness in providing outstanding Jesuit education in Nepal, I pray that God may continue to bless this hallowed institution.

Fr Shajumon Chakkalakkal, S.J.
Provincial,
Darjeeling-Nepal Jesuit Province

FROM THE SUPERIOR OF SXJ



As we celebrate this Jubilee, we reflect with gratitude on the growth of Jesuit education in Nepal like a seed planted in fertile soil, growing steadily into a tree of wisdom and service that offers shade to all, especially the marginalized.

Our mission has shaped minds and hearts, passing on the values of compassion, integrity, and excellence, through generations. It is akin to a flame passed from one candle to the next, spreading light across communities and inspiring countless lives within and outside the country.

Jesuit institutions in Nepal have remained steadfast through change, forming intellectually competent individuals grounded in justice, faith, and service, all while staying true to the Ignatian spirit.

Our education unites tradition with innovation, guiding youth to serve others and inspiring a renewed commitment to educate, uplift, and transform for the greater glory of God.

God bless us!

Fr Dr. Boby Joseph, S.J.
Superior
St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel

FROM THE SUPERIOR OF SXG

In early 1990, as I departed for Nepal, I wept bitterly while embracing my father and mother. I was overwhelmed by a strong sense that I might never return home. My family members did their utmost to comfort me, reminding me that Nepal is a neighbouring country to India, that travel between the two nations is unrestricted, and that I could return at any time. Despite their reassurances, I remained inconsolable.

I recall a conversation with the late Fr Gene Watrin, who shared that when he left America for Nepal, he too believed he might never return home. After spending twenty years in Nepal, he visited America for the first time and found himself a stranger in his own hometown and among his family.

Both the nation and its people had transformed over time, a shift deeply felt by the founding fathers and early pioneers who first established the schools in Godavari and Jawalakhel.

They arrived in Nepal convinced they were making it their new home, and that their relatives and friends would now be the people of Nepal.



As we commemorate the 75th Anniversary of St. Xavier's, we honour the unwavering dedication and commitment of all the Jesuits who served in this land, as well as the teachers and staff who worked alongside them, embracing the vision and mission of St. Xavier's as their own.

We also celebrate the trust and faith of the parents who believed in the education provided by these fathers, confident that it would help their children become not only academically competent but also conscious, compassionate, and committed individuals—persons for and with others, and people who will "live for God and lead for Nepal."

The success and legacy of any educational institution are measured not solely by academic outcomes, but by the impact that education has on students and the individuals they become within society.

We can take pride in the fact that Xavierians from both schools have consistently demonstrated their commitment to Nepal, often declining lucrative opportunities abroad to remain and contribute to their homeland.

Numerous Xavierians serve in the Nepal Army and Nepal Police, and as doctors, engineers, social workers, journalists, activists, entrepreneurs, and even politicians.

This extensive involvement attests to the enduring value of the education provided by St. Xavier's. Therefore, I hope the spirit and legacy of St. Xavier's and the Jesuits will continue to inspire future generations to be persons for and with others, and to live for Nepal and lead for Nepal.

Fr George P.M., S.J.
Superior
St. Xavier's School, Godavari

FROM THE PRINCIPAL OF SXJ



Dear Parents, Students, Alumni members, all well-wishers and benefactors,

It is with a heart full of profound gratitude and immense pride that I welcome you to this special souvenir magazine, commemorating the historic seventy-fifth anniversary of St. Xavier's School.

For seven and a half decades, this institution has stood as a beacon of excellence, shaping not only the minds of young individuals but also the very fabric of modern Nepal.

Honouring Our Roots: The Pioneering American Jesuits. Our journey began in 1951, a pivotal year in Nepal's history. Invited by King Tribhuvan at the dawn of democracy, Father Marshall D. Moran and a dedicated band of American Jesuits stepped onto Nepalese soil. They brought with them a vision that went far beyond traditional schooling.

Under the timeless motto, "Live for God and Lead for Nepal," these pioneers established a foundation of academic rigour, character formation, and deep civic responsibility. They navigated untold infrastructural and cultural challenges, driven solely by a desire to serve the youth of this beautiful nation.

A Legacy of Progress: From 1951 to the present what started as a single spark has transformed into a sweeping flame of educational reform. Over the past seventy five years, the Jesuit mission in Nepal has grown and adapted to meet the changing needs of our society.

Expanding Horizons: From our humble beginnings, the Jesuit mission expanded into higher education through St. Xavier's College and extended its reach far beyond the Kathmandu Valley into the rural heartlands and eastern regions of Nepal.

Inclusivity and Adaptation: We transformed from an exclusive residential school into a vibrant, co-educational day school, reflecting the democratic and inclusive ideals of modern Nepal.

Holistic Excellence: We transitioned from rote learning to fostering the "Four Cs"— Competence, Conscience, Compassion, and Commitment — ensuring that our students excel in both intellect and character.

The true measure of our seventy-five-year journey lies in the impact our alumni have made both across the globe and within our own borders. St. Xavier's has been a crucible for nation-building. Our graduates have gone on to serve and lead Nepal as statesmen, visionary entrepreneurs, groundbreaking scientists, dedicated doctors, compassionate social workers, and principled public servants.

By introducing holistic development, critical thinking, and a robust co-curricular culture, the Jesuits fundamentally elevated the standards of education nationwide, inspiring both the private and public sectors to strive for higher goals.

We are deeply humbled to be an inseparable chapter in Nepal's educational and social history. This milestone is not ours alone. It belongs to generations of dedicated Jesuit Fathers and Scholastics, our passionate teachers, our hardworking support staff, our collaborative parents, and our brilliant students. We owe a profound debt of gratitude to the Government of Nepal and the local community for their unwavering trust and companionship throughout these seven decades.

As we turn the page toward the next chapter, let us renew our pledge to be men and women for others. Let us continue to break barriers, bridge divides, and ignite minds for a brighter and more equitable Nepal.

May God bless St. Xavier's School,
and may our light continue to shine brightly!

Fr Leo Alphonse Raj, S.J.
Principal
St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel

FROM THE PRINCIPAL OF SXG



As St. Xavier's celebrates seventy-five years of service in Nepal, from 1951 to 2026, we stand with hearts filled with gratitude, pride, and hope. This 75th Anniversary of St. Xavier's School is not merely a celebration of time; it is a celebration of a living legacy—a legacy shaped by faith, excellence, sacrifice, and an unwavering commitment to the people of Nepal.

The theme of this Jubilee year, "Building Bridges, Shaping Lives," beautifully expresses the heart of our journey. For 75 years, St. Xavier's has built bridges between faith and knowledge, tradition and innovation, school and society, and generations of people who have shared in this mission. These bridges have connected minds and hearts, opened doors of opportunity, and enabled us to reach out to people from every walk of life. For three-quarters of a century, St. Xavier's has stood tall in every sense. It has been a home of excellent education, a place where young minds have been enlightened, disciplined, and inspired to seek truth and goodness. More importantly, it has been a community that has shaped lives—forming students not only for academic achievement, but also for compassion, responsibility, courage, and service.

The guiding spirit of our mission, "Live for God, Lead for Nepal" has been woven into the history of education entrusted to us. It reminds us that education is not simply the pursuit of knowledge or success. It is the formation of the whole person: a person of conscience, competence, compassion, and commitment. In the Ignatian tradition, we seek to inspire our students and staff to become men and women for others and with others, ready to serve, collaborate, and place their gifts at the service of humanity.

From the classrooms and laboratories to the playgrounds, chapels, communities, and countless spaces of service, St. Xavier's has continued to educate with purpose. Its influence can be seen not only in the achievements of its alumni but also in the lives they have touched through their professions, leadership, and service. Every student who has passed through our doors has become part of this continuing story, carrying forward the values received and shaping the world in turn.

Our continuing effort to reach millions of people through the Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs) marks another significant leap in Jesuit education

The UAPs call us to show the way to God, walk with the poor and the outcast, accompany young people in the creation of a hope-filled future, and care for our common home. They invite us to build wider bridges of solidarity and to shape lives through accompaniment, justice, compassion, and hope.

As we commemorate this historic milestone, we honour the pioneers, Jesuits, religious, teachers, staff, parents, benefactors, alumni, and well-wishers whose dedication has carried this mission forward. We remember with reverence all those who have gone before us, and we give thanks for the countless lives transformed through their service.

The 75th Anniversary of St. Xavier's is both a celebration and a call. It calls us to preserve the values that have sustained St. Xavier's for seventy-five years, while courageously embracing the challenges and possibilities of the future. May we continue building bridges that unite, heal, and empower, and shaping lives that bring light, peace, and hope to Nepal and the world.

With renewed commitment, St. Xavier's School, looks ahead, faithful to its heritage, attentive to the present, and hopeful for the future. May the next chapter be even more luminous, and may our shared journey with shared vision continue to form generations who will live for God, lead for Nepal, and work for the greater good of all.

Fr Vijay Pratap Toppo, S.J.
Principal
St. Xavier's School, Godavari

THROUGH OUR WORDS





Jesuit Education and Social Transformation in Nepal

Jesuit education in Nepal has grown in both academic excellence and social transformation. One milestone was the establishment of the Nepal Jesuit Social Institute (NJSI) in response to the 2015 earthquake. NJSI served rural communities through relief, education, livelihood, protection, and health initiatives until 2024. It is now advancing towards developing the Fe y Alegria (Faith and Joy) model, joining the global movement of education and social transformation.

We have selected seven government schools for this model, which aims to connect education with rural development. St. Xavier's Schools are our key partners, offering training to government school teachers in the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm, subject-wise training, advanced computer skills, and technical support.

As we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of St. Xavier's School, we journey together with hope, expanding our reach through greater collaboration and networking, serving rural communities with compassion and transforming society through education.

Wishing you all a Happy 75th Anniversary!

Fr Augustus Ekka, S.J.
Executive Director
Nepal Jesuit Social Institute



75 years, "Live for God and Lead for Nepal"

We owe heartfelt thanks to those who carried the torch: the predecessors, the Xavierians, and well-wishers who shaped the journey together. Seventy-five years is a milestone to reflect on, celebrate, and look forward. In our retrospection, how would we rate the implementation of UAPss and the presence of alumni in rural Nepal?

We also examine the school motto, "Live for God and lead for Nepal." Today, the motto is apt and relevant to the needs of the country and its people.

The remarkable milestone challenges Jesuits and our alumni amidst the chaos to live up to the school motto, or, alternatively, to make it a reality.

Fr David Ekka, S.J.



Inside the Cocoon: The Unseen Power of Jesuit Education

A caterpillar's transformation is unseen from the outside, yet profound within. Jesuit education mirrors this: It is more than academics—it's the patient growth of mind, heart, and character.

The Jesuit philosophy of formation through education has been evident from the dormitories of St. Xavier's Godavari to the newly established St. Xavier's School in Siraha. The Jesuits saw education as a way to build a just and humane society, a mission that has remained unchanged at St. Xavier's for seventy five years.

Our classrooms remain cocoons of transformation, gently molding Xavierians ready to serve others. Let us nurture this transformation and build a just and humane society together.

Fr Dr. Augustine Thomas, S.J.
St. Xavier's College, Maitighar



Memorable Moments in My Teaching Journey

"The memories created at SXG will remain close to my heart forever."

Being a part of the Xavierian family for the past year and three months has been a truly enriching and memorable experience for me. Every day has been deeply rewarding and transformative. The radiant smiles of the children, along with the unwavering support of the administration and my colleagues, have made my journey incredibly meaningful. Over my time here, I have discovered that education is not merely about imparting knowledge but about nurturing hearts, inspiring minds, building character, and instilling values.

Therefore, rooted in the Xavierian ideals of service, excellence, and faith, I strive to teach with hope, integrity, and love every day. As St. Xavier's marks seventy five remarkable years, I feel honored to be a part of this enduring legacy and to uphold its sacred mission at Godavari.

With gratitude to God, I pray that our school may continue to be a beacon of inspiration, transforming lives for generations to come. My heartiest congratulations to SXG on this momentous occasion!

Sr Angelica Sherpa
Coordinator(1-4), SXG



Reflection on Teaching and Learning

My experience of teaching at St. Xavier's has been both meaningful and enriching. Through teaching, I aim to enhance students' education beyond academic learning, helping them become leaders and independent thinkers outside the classroom.

As a teacher with a passion for learning, I strive to empower my students and keep them highly engaged in their education through interactive class discussions with their peers. I encourage students to think independently, ask questions, and apply their learning to real-life situations. In class, we uphold shared values and standards of respect and care for others. I continue to improve my teaching by building on my classroom experiences and learning from my students.

One of the most valuable aspects of my teaching has been promoting values such as honesty, discipline, empathy, and responsibility. These values are consistently practiced in daily school life, helping students become respectful, responsible, and caring individuals. Overall, in my daily teaching practice, I strive to help students develop strong values and become confident, capable individuals, while continuing to learn through my own classroom experiences and future opportunities.

Ritu Shrestha
Senior Teacher, SXG



My School: My Second Home

Teaching has provided me with a profession, but this school has gifted me a lifetime of beautiful memories. When I joined, I came with the intention of inspiring young minds. Little did I know that I would also discover new strengths within myself along the way.

This school has allowed me to experience the joy of being both a teacher and a learner. For the first time in my life, I danced on stage as a teacher, participated in a running race on Sports Day, enjoyed playing football, basketball, and throwball, and went hiking with my colleagues and students. These moments filled my heart with happiness and remindes me that learning has no age limit.

Every classroom, every event, and every challenge has helped me grow in confidence, patience, and gratitude. The smiles of my students, the encouragement of my colleagues, and the support of the school management have made this journey truly meaningful.

I feel blessed to be a part of this school, where learning goes beyond textbooks and every day brings a new opportunity to grow. This school is more than my workplace; it is my second home, where I continue to learn and create cherished memories.

I am deeply grateful for this wonderful journey and for the opportunities provided by the Nepal Jesuit Society. I look forward to many more years of learning, teaching, and growing together.

Diki Lepcha
Senior Teacher, SXG



Reflections on My Teaching Journey at St. Xavier's

Teaching at St. Xavier's has been one of the most meaningful journeys of my life. It has given me the privilege to learn, grow, and make a lasting impact on the lives of my students. Every class has brought new experiences, joyful moments, and valuable lessons.

Over the years, I have realized that teaching is not merely about sharing knowledge, but also about learning from the curiosity, honesty, and resilience of children. They continually inspire me to become a better teacher and a better person.

As St. Xavier's celebrates its seventy fifth anniversary, I feel deeply grateful to be part of its rich tradition. The core values of faith, service, and excellence continue to guide me, serving as a constant reminder that the greatest reward of teaching is the positive mark we leave on young lives.

Mangali Silwal
Senior Teacher, SXG



My Xavierian Journey

Teaching at St. Xavier's Godavari has been a deeply meaningful part of my life. For over twenty six years, I have watched students grow in confidence, curiosity, and kindness.

The Xavierian values of service, excellence, and faith guide our classrooms every day. I cherish the moments when a child understands something new or shows care for others; these simple experiences reflect the big heart of our school.

As SXG celebrates seventy five years, I feel proud of its rich heritage and hopeful for its bright future and continued development. Our community continues to learn, serve, and dream together.

Urbashi Thapa Chettri
Senior Teacher, SXG



A Quarter-Century of Purpose and Gratitude

Serving at St. Xavier's School, Godavari, for twenty-five remarkable years has been a deeply enriching journey that has shaped the very fabric of my life. Far from feeling tiring, each passing year brings fresh energy, unique batches of students, and unforgettable classroom experiences that keep my passion for teaching alive.

This quarter-century of service has been made truly meaningful by cooperative colleagues, a supportive administration, and, above all, the constant guidance of caring Jesuit Fathers.

St. Xavier's is no longer just my workplace—it has become a cherished, inseparable part of who I am.

Saroj Kumar Raut
Teacher, SXG



A Legacy of Excellence, Service, and Future Hope

For more than twenty years, St. Xavier's School, Godavari, has been more than just my workplace, it has been an honor. Teaching here has been a true blessing and a continuous journey of personal and professional learning.

The person I am today is a direct reflection of my experiences within this school and the time I have shared with these bright young minds.

As St. Xavier's marks seventy-five years of educational excellence, I am deeply humbled to have been part of over a quarter of its history. While many things have changed over the years, the core values of character, service, and excellence remain as strong as ever at Godavari.

We are stepping into a new era shaped by AI, digital classrooms, and modern pedagogies. Yet, the Xaverian legacy remains steadfast. I am proud to carry that torch, grateful to pass it on, and hopeful for the future generations who will write the next seventy-five chapters.

Gyan Guragain
Senior Teacher, SXG



Completing the Circle: From Student to Teacher

My journey at St. Xavier's School, Godavari, began in Grade one and continued until my graduation in 2008. Those formative years gifted me a strong academic foundation and the Xaverian code, which taught me to see life with purpose, compassion, and resilience.

Returning years later as a teacher felt like completing a deeply meaningful circle. What I initially thought would be a brief experience soon became a calling that reshaped my life. Each day, I am reminded of our motto, "Live for God, Lead for Nepal," and my responsibility to inspire young Xaverians.

Having once walked in their footsteps, I strive to guide my students to think critically, learn courageously, and grow into people of character. St. Xavier's has not only shaped my journey—it has defined the person I am proud to be today.

Shrijan Amatya
Batch of 2006/Teacher, SXG



75 years of legacy

As St. Xavier's School, Godavari, celebrates its historic 75th Anniversary, I extend my warmest wishes to the Jesuit Fathers, teachers, staff, students and all well-wishers.

Since its establishment in 1951 A.D., St. Xavier's has maintained a proud tradition of quality education and holistic development. Situated beneath the scenic slopes of Phulchowki, the school turns its unique geographical and physical challenges, harsh winter into valuable opportunities that instill daily discipline, resilience, and strength in its students.

A defining virtue of St. Xavier's is its deep spirit of equality. Here, every student is valued equally, with no distinction between rich or poor, and with complete respect for all religions and backgrounds. Through innovative yearly educational themes, the school continuously inspires students to improve, adapt, and reach their fullest potential as compassionate individuals.

Guided by the timeless motto "Live for God, Lead for Nepal" students receive not only finest academic knowledge but also a dedicated moral foundation.

Reaching the seventy-fifth anniversary milestone is an incredible achievement. Let's celebrate this remarkable legacy and wish St. Xavier's continued success in shaping disciplined, boundless leaders for generations to come!

Kripa Shrestha,
SMC member, SXG



Reflections on Teaching and Learning at St. Xavier's School

Teaching and learning at St. Xavier's have been meaningful and enriching experiences. Rooted in the Jesuit tradition of ***Cura Personalis* - care for the whole person**, education is not limited to academic success. It focuses on the overall growth of every student.

We try to understand each student's abilities, needs, interests, challenges, and aspirations. As teachers, we regularly reflect on our teaching and adapt our methods to support different learners. We also give importance to character, values, creativity, leadership, and social responsibility. Through relationships, reflection, collaboration, and experiential learning, we create a supportive environment where students feel valued. I believe good teaching inspires curiosity, builds confidence, and helps students become responsible and lifelong learners.

Rabi Shrestha
Coordinator (Classes 9 to 12), SXG



From the Parent:

To begin with, I am truly honored to contribute to the 75th Anniversary souvenir magazine of St. Xavier's School, Godavari. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Rev. Father Principal, the Father Superior, the Vice Principals, the teachers, and the entire school family for giving me this wonderful opportunity

Reflecting on teaching and learning at St. Xavier's School, education extends beyond just books and exams. The teachers here bring lessons to life through creative and interactive methods that make learning enjoyable and meaningful. They care not only about the students' academic success but also about helping them develop values, discipline, and critical thinking skills. Their encouragement gives students the confidence to believe in themselves and reach their full potential.

One of the best parts of studying at St. Xavier's is its strong emphasis on extracurricular activities. From school exhibitions to Students Quality Circles (SQC) and Model United Nations (MUNs), students have opportunities to step out of their comfort zones, explore their interests, and develop important life skills such as leadership, teamwork, and communication. These experiences help students express themselves, listen to others, and collaborate toward common goals—skills that extend far beyond the classroom.

Events like melas and cultural programs also play a significant role in shaping the school's spirit. They bring everyone together, create lasting memories, and remind us that learning can happen anywhere—even while dancing, debating, or building something new.

Altogether, the teaching approach and the wide range of learning opportunities at St. Xavier's help shape students into confident, kind, and capable individuals who are ready to take on life's challenges with both knowledge and heart.

Ram Manandhar
Former PTA Chairman, SXG







St. Xavier's

-Golden Jubilee-

INAUGURATION CEREMONY







50 years of St. Xavier's

























St. Xavier's

-Diamond Jubilee-

INAUGURATION CEREMONY







60 years of St. Xavier's

























St. Xavier's

75TH YEAR

INAUGURATION CEREMONY







75 Years of St. Xavier's



















THE XAVERIAN VOICE

STORIES AND REFLECTIONS



MESSAGE ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JESUIT EDUCATIONAL MISSION IN NEPAL



It is with immense joy, gratitude, and pride that I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire St. Xavier's family on the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Jesuit educational mission in Nepal.

This milestone is not merely a celebration of years; it is a celebration of lives transformed, communities enriched, and generations empowered through the noble mission of education. Having spent much of my life within the St. Xavier's tradition, I consider it a profound blessing to have journeyed alongside this remarkable institution and the countless students, teachers, parents, alumni, and well-wishers who have shaped its legacy.

For seventy-five years, St. Xavier's has stood as a beacon of excellence, nurturing young minds while forming compassionate hearts. The institution has consistently sought not only academic achievement but also the holistic development of each student, fostering values of integrity, fraternity, responsibility, service, and leadership. Through its classrooms have passed generations of young people who have gone on to serve Nepal and the wider world as doctors, engineers, educators, pilots, entrepreneurs, social workers, public servants, and leaders in countless fields. Their contributions continue to leave an indelible mark on the nation and beyond.

One of the defining strengths of the St. Xavier's community has always been its strong sense of belonging. We have never viewed our schools merely as educational institutions; they are families. Across decades, students, teachers, alumni, parents, and friends have remained deeply connected to the mission and to one another.

This spirit of solidarity has been especially evident during times of challenge, when members of the St. Xavier's family have come together with extraordinary generosity and commitment to rebuild, renew, and strengthen the institutions they cherish. Such moments remind us that St. Xavier's is not simply a place—it is a living community bound together by shared values and a common purpose.

I am particularly grateful for the vision that has continually expanded opportunities for all young people. The commitment to inclusion and equal opportunity, especially through education and empowerment of both boys and girls, has enriched our institutions and strengthened our society.

It reflects our conviction that every child deserves the opportunity to learn, grow, and contribute meaningfully to the world. The Jesuit educational mission in Nepal has also played a significant role in fostering harmony, mutual respect, and understanding among people of diverse faiths, cultures, and backgrounds. At a time when the world often faces division and uncertainty, our schools have remained places where dialogue, compassion, and respect for human dignity are actively cultivated. This commitment to promoting peace and social responsibility remains one of our greatest contributions to society.

As I reflect upon nearly four decades of association with the Jesuit mission in Nepal, I do so with profound gratitude. I have witnessed moments of great achievement and joy, as well as periods of challenge and difficulty. Yet through every season, I have seen the resilience, dedication, and unwavering spirit of the St. Xavier's family. These experiences have strengthened my conviction in the transformative power of Jesuit education.

Today, as we honor the rich legacy of the past seventy-five years, we also look forward with hope and confidence. The future is bright because it rests in the hands of young people who are talented, compassionate, and committed to making a difference. My prayer is that St. Xavier's will continue to inspire future generations to become men and women for and with others, guided by a deep sense of social responsibility and a commitment to the common good.

May the spirit that has sustained this mission for seventy-five years continue to flourish.

May the bonds of community grow ever stronger. May students, alumni, educators, parents, and friends of St. Xavier's continue to work together with renewed zeal, carrying forward the values that have made this institution a source of pride for Nepal and a force for positive change in society. This anniversary is both a celebration of past accomplishments and a beacon guiding us toward continued growth and innovation in education.

Congratulations once again on this remarkable milestone. May God bless St. Xavier's and all who are part of this extraordinary journey.

Fr Boniface Tigga, S.J.
St. Joseph's School North Point Darjeeling

ENCOUNTERS WITH SCHOLARS

I consider myself truly fortunate to have encountered three remarkable Jesuit scholars in Nepal: Fr Ludwig Stiller, Fr John Locke, and Fr Casper Miller (Fr Cap). Each of them profoundly influenced my academic journey, especially during my master's studies in Nepali History and Culture.

My first encounter was with Fr Stiller, a renowned historian of Nepal. He kindly took me around the Human Resources Development Research Center (HRDC) library, showing me essential documents, including microfilms of rare historical records on Nepal's past. His guidance opened up a treasure trove of knowledge I could never have accessed otherwise. Later, when Fr Stiller moved to St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, I moved into the HRDC residence.

There, I had the privilege of living alongside Fr John Locke, who was a resident at the center. As I pursued my master's degree, Fr Locke became an invaluable mentor—a true walking encyclopedia on every aspect of Nepal. Having proofread numerous books by Nepali authors, he possessed an extraordinary depth of knowledge about the country's history, culture, and society. He was like an FM radio: I only had to "press the button" (ask a question), and he would share endlessly fascinating insights. I could listen to him for hours until my mind was completely full. The vast breadth of knowledge and archival materials he introduced me to was beyond my imagination.

The third scholar I encountered was Fr Cap, who was also my literature teacher. He was a legend in his own right, possessing a profound understanding of Nepal.



All three of these Jesuit fathers were extraordinary gifts in my life, providing the guidance, wisdom, and inspiration that enabled me to successfully complete my master's studies.

These encounters were truly transformative, and I remain deeply grateful for the time I spent learning from such dedicated, brilliant mentors.

Fr Vijay Pratap Toppo, S.J.
Principal
St. Xavier's School, Godavari

MY EXPERIENCES AND MEMORIES OF ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, JAWALAKHEL

With immense joy and gratitude, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel family on the joyous occasion of its seventy-fifth anniversary. St. Xavier's School stands as one of the pioneering educational works of the Jesuits in Nepal. Founded in 1951 at the invitation of the late General Mrigendra Shamsher Rana, an educator of the Rana dynasty, the school began its journey at a time when Nepal was in great need of a strong educational foundation. What started as a humble effort to provide quality education has grown into one of the most respected and influential educational institutions in the country.

Over the decades, St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel has become a center of academic excellence and holistic formation. It has contributed significantly to the educational, social, and national development of Nepal. Generations of students have passed through its halls and have gone on to serve the nation and the world in various capacities.

Many Jesuits, teachers, staff members, and collaborators have dedicated themselves selflessly to this mission. I, too, had the privilege of serving the school as Vice Principal, an experience for which I remain deeply grateful. While individuals have come and gone, what remains constant is the enduring legacy of the Jesuit charism, values, and vision. The spirit of forming 'men and women for others' continues to inspire and guide the school community.

As we celebrate the 75th year of St. Xavier's, we gratefully remember the Jesuits, teachers, staff, parents, alumni, benefactors, and students whose dedication, commitment, and sacrifices have shaped this remarkable institution.



Their collective efforts have built a lasting legacy that continues to inspire generations.

May this milestone be an occasion not only to celebrate past achievements but also to renew our commitment to the noble mission of education. May St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel continue to be a beacon of hope, wisdom, and service, forming young people who will contribute to building a more just, humane, and compassionate society.

Congratulations on 75 years of excellence, service, and transformative education. May God continue to bless St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, and all who are part of its rich heritage and promising future.

Fr Sanjay Ekka, S.J.
Principal
St. Xavier's School, Deonia

FUNNY MEMORIES OF SXJ HOSTEL DAYS

I first came to the school in 1980 as a brother to teach in the middle school and to serve as the hostel's assistant prefect to Fr Bill Robins. There were about one hundred boys in classes 7 to 10, mostly from far-away districts. I would like to narrate some funny incidents that took place during the year I was there. Br. Chettri was the minister in those days, and he ran a farm near the football field with chickens, pigs, and buffaloes.

One day, the senior boys decided to go for a picnic on a holiday. Some of the naughtier boys made a plan to steal chickens from the farm at night. The chickens were caught, killed, and dressed to be taken the next morning. However, as they were boarding the vehicle for the picnic, the prefect caught them with the extra baggage. The kitchen storeroom was near the old library and had only wire mesh protecting the window. The boys used to cut the netting to steal bananas and other fruits at night. On Friday nights, the boys played basketball after supper on the court near St. Mary's School hostel, and they used to make a lot of noise.

Naturally, the sisters were disturbed. One day, the sister who was the hostel warden rang up Fr Robins to complain about the loud noise from our basketball court. Father asked, "Sister, did our boys come onto your compound? They are playing in our court, right?" That was the end of the complaints from the other side.

To prefect the boys at night, I used to sleep in their dormitory, which was located in the attic of the old Rana building. Our beds were positioned directly under the tin roofing sheets. .



While the Nepalese boys were used to earthquakes, I was not. One night, the tin sheets shook violently. The boys started running and shouting, "Earthquake! Run, run!" I ran too, and in no time reached the football ground. We spent the rest of the night in the cold on the basketball court; no one dared go back inside to get their blankets.

There are also many stories about Fr Charlie Law's absent-mindedness. One day, he had just returned on his motorbike and was in a hurry to teach his class. He walked into the classroom with his helmet still on and started teaching! On another occasion, while teaching, he needed to draw on the blackboard. He needed a scale (ruler), but one wasn't available. So, he pulled his belt and used it as a straightedge, and the boys had a good laugh.

Fr A.V. Mathew, S.J.
Nepal Jesuit Social Institute

Among the greatest blessings of my life in Nepal over the past four decades has been the opportunity to engage with every level of the country's educational system. I began by teaching science in the junior school and English in the senior school at St. Xavier's in the early 1980s. In the mid-1990s, I helped establish tertiary-level programs at St. Xavier's College, and for the past two decades, I have taught undergraduate students while supervising MA and PhD candidates at Kathmandu University.

This breadth of experience as both a teacher and an administrator has given me a unique perspective on the remarkable expansion of educational opportunities in Nepal over the past half-century. The growth of both the public and private sectors reflects the Nepalese people's deep appreciation of education as the foundation of meaningful national development.

The Nepal Jesuit Society's schools and college have played a central role in this transformation. They have produced leaders in medicine, business, engineering, law, education, the military, and many other fields. Even more importantly, they have inspired other educational institutions throughout the country by setting a standard of excellence to which others aspire. When the first Jesuit fathers from Patna founded St. Xavier's School at Godavari seventy-five years ago, modern, internationally oriented education in Nepal was available to only a small number of sons of the Kathmandu Valley's nobility and mercantile elite. Arriving just as Nepal embarked on its first experiment with democracy, they came at a pivotal moment, helping to broaden educational opportunities for a much wider cross-section of Nepalese society.



The example set by those pioneering Jesuits and their dedicated collaborators continues to shape the vision and growth of the St. Xavier's institutions—not only in Kathmandu, but also in Pokhara and the districts of Jhapa and Siraha. More significantly, they helped launch a broader movement toward universal educational opportunity, which remains their greatest gift to a developing nation.

All of us who have shared in this remarkable work—teachers, staff, alumni, students, parents, and benefactors, both Nepali and international—can celebrate St. Xavier's Diamond Jubilee with profound pride and heartfelt gratitude.

Gregory Sharkey, S.J.
Resident Director
Boston College Nepal Program

THE "MARROW" OF JESUIT EDUCATION



After the establishment of the Society of Jesus, it took an agonizing eight years for St. Ignatius to approve the starting of a Jesuit educational institution in 1548, namely St. Ignatius College in Messina, Italy. That was the beginning of institutionalized Jesuit education. What followed soon thereafter can only be acknowledged as an outstanding ministry of the Jesuits in the service of humanity and God.

The Jesuits, who had initially resisted the idea of establishing any permanent institutions of their own, found themselves within the next eight years with approval from St. Ignatius to establish forty new schools. The rest is history, and the contribution of Jesuits in the field of education worldwide is there for all to see.

Let us ask ourselves: What makes Jesuit education thrive? What is the "marrow" of Jesuit education? What is that life-giving sap that nourishes Jesuit educational institutions? To questions such as these, there would be answers aplenty. People from outside the Society, as well as those within it, would answer these questions differently. While some of these answers might be highly philosophical, others might be commonplace and direct.

My take on the marrow of this long-cherished history of Jesuit education is its ability to always remain relevant. I believe it is nothing but relevancy that has brought Jesuit education this far. No matter where in the world a Jesuit educational institution is located, it thrives because it continues to be relevant to the people, the place, and the time. Jesuit education continues to make sense; it continues to be meaningful.

To remain relevant, one must first adapt to the needs of the people and place, and second, adopt appropriate means to fulfill those needs.

For the Jesuits, this process of adaptation and adoption is well enshrined in the Latin principle Tantum Quantum, meaning 'so much as', 'in as much as' , 'in so far as'. That is, whatever brings the greater glory to God, the Jesuits will embrace it (Spiritual Exercises, 23). It is this adaptability that makes Jesuit education relevant and meaningful.

In the case of St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, this process of adaptation and adoption can easily be traced back through its seventy-five-year history: its birth in Godavari, its move to its present location in Jawalakhel, its transition from a boy's school to a co-educational institution, and the evolution of its admission, scholarship, and collaboration policies.

All of these have undergone changes. Some of these changes emerged as modifications to existing policies, while others were rejected entirely to make way for new approaches. These adaptations and adoptions made St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel relevant to the people of Nepal in the past and continue to make it so today. These changes are the direct results of Tantum Quantum!

These adaptations, however, have not been merely cosmetic. While there have been major physical and structural changes over the years to meet the needs of the time, the school's continued relevance is primarily due to internal adaptations—changes in attitude. This attitudinal flexibility enabled the Jesuits to read the signs of the times and adapt accordingly. Irrefutably, in its seventy-five years of existence, St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel has grown from strength to strength, earning a glorious and glittering legacy. Its unmatched contributions to the people of Nepal are visible to all.

Times have changed, however. In recent years, Nepal has experienced sea changes in its forms of government, and these transitions are far from over. The country as a whole is still navigating uncertainties. The aspirations of Generation Z are herculean. Their needs, hopes, and demands are skyrocketing. Some might term these expectations utopian, but they cannot simply be brushed aside or swept under the carpet. Rather, they must be addressed honestly and responded to appropriately. This is where St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel faces real, demanding challenges. These challenges are too heavy for a single shoulder. What is required, therefore, are collective and collaborative efforts by all stakeholders. In light of this, 'rethinking' and 'reimagining' must be the buzzwords for St. Xavier's today.

It needs to adapt to the changing needs of the nation; it needs to adopt means and measures that align with the aspirations of Gen Z; it needs to provide clear direction for school education in the country; it needs to assist in value-clarification for youth; and it needs to show a path of mutual trust and respect among citizens.

Hence, it is time for St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel to deliberately desist from simply basking in its glorious past, and instead transform itself to ensure its services remain deeply meaningful and relevant to modern Nepal.

As you celebrate your seventy-five years of glorious existence, my prayer for you, St. Xavier's, is this: following the path of Tantum Quantum as traced by our founder, St. Ignatius, may you continue to reimagine, reinvent, and restructure yourself so that you remain a vital and relevant blessing to the people of Nepal!

Fr Dr. Daniel Bara, S.J.
Loyola College, Namchi, Sikkim

WALKING WITH MY QUESTIONS: REFLECTIONS FROM MY TIME AT ST. XAVIER'S JAWALAKHEL

As St. Xavier's School celebrates seventy-five years of forming "men and women for others," I look back on my two years at Jawalakhel—years that gave me not only fond memories but also enduring questions about what it truly means to educate for life.

I had the joy of spending two wonderful years at St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, as a regent from 2002 to 2004. I still remember the curious faces in Classes 4 and 5, the laughter that filled the basketball court, and the warmth of community life, especially the guidance of my Rector, fr Cap Miller, and the friendship of the Jesuit Volunteers International (JVIs).

What touched me most was being part of the scholarship program for children from the neighborhood. Many came from disadvantaged, single-parent families. I can still picture their small, one-room homes along the narrow, unpaved lanes of Nakhu, and the quiet determination of parents who wanted something better for their children.

At the time, I often wondered what it truly meant for those students to be part of St. Xavier's. They were privileged to study there, yet many didn't seem to grasp the value of that opportunity—perhaps because the world inside the school felt so different from the one they went home to.

As the years passed, I realized that only a few of those scholarship students were able to make full use of the opportunities they received, while many struggled to turn education into lasting change. That experience left me with questions that still accompany me today:



- What makes the education of a scholarship student in a privileged school truly successful?

- How can a school bridge the gap between disadvantaged and more privileged students?

- If education is the ticket to a better life, why does it not always deliver on that promise?

Now, as I work in a rural school, these questions continue to guide me. They remind me that education is not just about opening doors, but about walking alongside students so they have the courage and support to step through those doors when they open.

Fr Dr. Jomon Jose, S.J.
St. Xavier's School
Sadakbari, Jhapa,

MY JOURNEY AT ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, JAWALAKHEL (2009–2023)

Jesuit education in Nepal is rooted in the principles of St. Ignatius of Loyola, focusing on the holistic development of individuals—intellectually, spiritually, morally, and socially. This educational philosophy emphasizes critical thinking, social responsibility, and service to others, preparing students to become compassionate leaders who work toward creating a more just and equitable world. My tenure at St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel has been one of the most significant and memorable experiences of my religious life. When I joined St. Xavier's in 2009, the educational landscape appeared challenging and demanding, particularly at the senior level. Throughout my life, teaching has always been my passion, and I thoroughly enjoyed every moment in the classroom.

When I assumed the role of Junior School Vice Principal, I initially felt apprehensive, knowing that I would no longer be teaching children directly. The beginning was difficult and challenging, but I gradually embraced my responsibilities with dedication and commitment. The most profound lesson that I learned was the value of trust. The trust placed in me by the Jesuit Fathers made me feel deeply accountable and responsible to both God and society. The teamwork, clear chain of command, and trust given to me enabled me to transform my perspective as Vice Principal. For me, every moment became an opportunity to bring out the best in the students. I made myself available and worked closely with the support of teachers and coordinators across the Junior, Senior, and Secondary sections. This wholehearted support, cooperation, and teamwork made my life truly fulfilling.



My sincere gratitude goes to all the Principals of St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, as well as the Vice-Principals, coordinators, and teachers for their constant, amicable support, valuable suggestions, expert guidance, and exemplary teamwork. Their collaborative spirit has been instrumental in my life. The Jesuit Fathers in Nepal have made an extraordinary difference in the fields of education, social service, and community development, transforming thousands of students into "people for others" who make significant contributions to society.

As St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel celebrates seventy five years of dedicated service to the people of Nepal, I extend my heartfelt best wishes and congratulations to all the Jesuit Fathers, teachers, and support staff. May the profound spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola continue to ignite hearts and minds, inspiring generations of students and educators alike.

Sr Maria Goretti Ekka, FMA
Former Junior School Vice Principal
SXJ

A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE: A TRIBUTE TO ST. XAVIER'S JAWALAKHEL

Today, we look back at a journey that began not with grand ceremonies, but with a simple act of faith. On September 5, 1954, when Fr Moran secured this property, he wasn't just buying land; he was planting a seed for the future of Nepal. Two days later, Fr Downing and the pioneering students arrived from Godavari, having walked via Harisiddhi, carrying their belongings and a vision for what education could become.

From those first students, we have seen an incredible evolution. We remember the early 1960s, when a modest plan for a single-story building grew, much like the school itself, into a three-story foundation of learning. We recall 1971, a pivotal year when the school transitioned from the Senior Cambridge syllabus to the Nepali matriculation system, signaling our deep commitment to our national identity and the educational reforms of our country.

The turn of the millennium brought some of our most significant milestones. In the year 2000, as we celebrated our Golden Jubilee in the presence of royalty—King Birendra and Queen Aishwarya—St. Xavier's opened a new chapter of inclusivity by welcoming girl students into our halls. This was followed by a physical transformation. We said a respectful farewell to the historic Rana-era palace to make way for the modern facilities we enjoy today, a bridge between Nepal's storied past and its bright future.

Our history is also one of resilience. When the 2015 earthquake tested the very foundations of our campus, the Xavierian spirit remained unshaken.



From those challenges rose the Fr Niesen Block in 2019, a testament to our ability to rebuild, adapt, and persevere.

Today, St. Xavier's Jawalakhel stands as a vibrant community of approximately 2,500 students from Grade 1 through Class 12. We are no longer just a school; we are a legacy of the Jesuit commitment to service. As we walk these halls, from the library inaugurated in 2001 to the modern classrooms of today, we carry with us the courage of those first ten students and the wisdom of the educators who guided us.

May we continue to grow, not just in numbers or buildings, but in our dedication to 'Live for God and Lead for Nepal.'

Fr Juel Kispotta, S.J.
HRDRC
Sanepa, Lalitpur 2, Nepal

FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD



The celebration of the seventy-fifth Jubilee of St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, is a moment of profound gratitude and joy, marking seventy-five years of excellence, service, and commitment to the mission of Jesuit education. As a Jesuit, I feel deeply blessed and privileged to have been part of this esteemed institution for two memorable years.

Serving St. Xavier's as Treasurer, Administrator, and Teacher was not merely an assignment; it was a meaningful participation in the apostolic mission of education entrusted to the Society of Jesus. These responsibilities allowed me to work closely with dedicated Jesuits, committed teachers, hardworking staff, supportive parents, and inspiring students. The experience enriched me professionally, spiritually, and personally, and I continue to cherish the memories and friendships formed during that time.

Inspired by the vision of St. Ignatius of Loyola, Jesuit education seeks to form young people who are intellectually competent, spiritually grounded, morally responsible, and committed to the service of others. St. Xavier's has faithfully carried forward this mission by educating not only the mind but also the heart, nurturing students in competence, conscience, compassion, and commitment.

I deeply admire St. Xavier's commitment to the Jesuit values of Magis and cura personalis. The spirit of Magis calls the school community to strive for excellence in the service of God and humanity, while cura personalis promotes the holistic development of every student—intellectually, emotionally, spiritually, physically, and socially.

I also deeply appreciate the school's commitment to the preferential option for the poor and marginalized. Through inclusive education, scholarships, and outreach efforts, St. Xavier's has opened doors of opportunity and hope to many, reflecting the Gospel values of justice, dignity, compassion, and solidarity.

My heartfelt congratulations and prayers go to the entire Xaverian family. May St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, continue to shine and form men and women for and with others. May God bless all who carry forward this noble mission, always striving ***Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam—for the Greater Glory of God.***

Fr Ajay Raj Lakra, S.J.
St. Xavier's College, Maitighar

MY JOURNEY WITH ST. XAVIER'S, JAWALAKHEL

It gives me immense joy and pride to see St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel celebrating its seventy-fifth Jubilee—seventy-five glorious years of shaping minds, nurturing values, and producing some of the finest stalwarts and legends of Nepal.

Being a part of this remarkable institution as Vice Principal of Academics for two years was not merely a professional experience; it was a deeply personal journey of learning, laughter, and life lessons.

During my tenure, I had the privilege of working closely with an energetic team of teachers, ever-supportive parents, and, of course, our curious and spirited students. Together, we navigated the beautiful chaos that every school day brings—from morning assemblies to last-period surprises. One of my key responsibilities was handling discipline.

Now, "discipline" may sound stern, but I discovered that the best results come not from scolding, but from conversation. Instead of saying, "Don't do this," I found it more meaningful to explain why an action mattered and what its consequences could be.

To my delight, most students, when treated with reason and respect, responded with a maturity far beyond their years. Of course, we have our limitations—some situations test even the calmest teacher's patience!

But I've always believed that students genuinely strive to become their best selves; sometimes, they just need a bit of guidance, and perhaps a little more understanding from their parents.



I could not have fulfilled my duties without the wholehearted support of parents. Their cooperation and trust made my role easier and our efforts more fruitful.

The teachers of St. Xavier's deserve a standing ovation; they are not just educators, but mentors, guardians, and sometimes even second parents to the students.

Their promptness and prudence in handling any situation, from academic hurdles to emotional ups and downs, made me admire them.

Believe it or not, I learned more from my students than I ever taught them. They taught me the true meaning of friendship, compassion, and community spirit.

Whether it was a charity drive, an environmental campaign, or a simple classroom project, their enthusiasm and generosity always shone through.

I often challenged them to connect theory to real life—to think beyond the pages of their textbooks. And every time they did, I saw sparks of creativity that reminded me why teaching is such a fulfilling calling.

Ah, the picnics and student exchange programs —unforgettable adventures! Those trips were filled with laughter, music, and a fair share of "Are we there yet?" moments.Watching students explore, make friends, and learn outside the classroom was pure joy.

They seemed to love the freedom (perhaps a little too much at times!), but those were the moments where bonds deepened, and lessons in teamwork and respect were truly learned.

The Administrators, Vice-principals, and coordinators of St. Xavier's deserve special mention. Their meticulous planning and commitment ensured that the school ran like a well-tuned orchestra—smooth, harmonious, and purposeful.

Their love for the institution is evident in every event, every schedule, and every quiet extra hour they dedicate behind the scenes.

I carry countless fond memories from my time at St. Xavier's—far too many to fit into one article. But each memory is a reminder of a family that works, dreams, and grows together.

As the school celebrates its seventy-fifth Jubilee, I extend my warmest congratulations and prayers to the entire Xaverian family. May the next seventy-five years be even more glorious, guided by wisdom, joy, and God's abundant grace.

Fr B. Rajasekaran, S.J.

-ALUMNI REMINISCENCES-

MEMORIES THAT TIME CANNOT ERASE



THE VERY EARLY YEARS – REMEMBERING FR MD MORAN

1. Decade of the 1950s

After having reached the age of 87 years, looking back over eighty years to the late 1940s appears incredible; but my memory is still fresh with certain incidents from where I would like to begin this short memoir. I was neither in SX Patna nor had SXG started functioning when I joined the primary school in St. Joseph's Convent, Patna in 1948. It was my good fortune and privilege that I was to bump into Fr MD Moran in St. Joseph's Convent.

He was a regular visitor to the school to advise the Mothers and Sisters and more often than not to lend a helping hand to the Convent and to keep us students entertained with ever-welcome movie and documentary film shows. His tall stature and ever present smile was always a welcome site for us. There were quite a few Nepalis when I joined the Convent. Some of us from that group went on to SX Patna and in due course 956 Clanded up in SXG.

After my two years in the Convent, I found myself under the direct tutelage of Fr MD Moran, founding Principal of SX Patna, in 1950. So, one can figure out how long the relationship had been — which continued unabated in various capacities right up to the very end, even after we had felt SXG.

2. The Pioneering Group

There were four of us who had been together right from 1948 at St. Joseph's Convent, Patna — Kenda Shah, Ramesh Pant, Umesh Pant and me — who transferred to SX Patna and ultimately to SXG.



Thus, we were seven of us who came by air along with Fr MD Moran in June 1951 who flew from Patna to Kathmandu — in what was perhaps one of the first airplane journeys — to become the pioneering group of six or seven in Class V. The school started functioning with the top class in July 1951. SXG was then a small family comprising of Classes I to V with the total number of about 65 students including the student-intake in Kathmandu. We were to learn later that the admission process was quite an event held in the Singha Durbar itself with quite a few high officials in the interview committee. The two years in SX Patna were memorable for us because we were prominent as Fr MD Moran's favorites. Father's connection with Kathmandu had commenced even earlier when he had made frequent visits to Nepal as invigilator for Patna University to conduct I.Sc. examinations in the early years.

We were given special treatment by Father in many ways. One of the incidents noteworthy was the trip to SX Ranchi in his Land Rover, where we were also to meet Shri Teen Padma S.J.B Rana, who had just been deposed as the Prime Minister and was taking asylum there. He was one of the first few important personalities we were to meet in subsequent years in Kathmandu as Fr MD Moran's special students.

3. The First Days in Godavari

I can still vividly recall with nostalgia that day on July 1 when the school opened. The drive to the school just in the suburbs of town was rather rough because the approach road to the building which had been leased to the school was in a neglected state.

Fr MD Moran had supervised whatever repairs and renovations works possible during the few months available before the school opened. I still remember walking up the road from the main gate to the fountain and there was Fr MD Moran waiting to welcome us.

It was just fantastic and there was Xavier House which was to be our dormitory. The environment around the place was so fresh and pure with all the greenery resplendent of a beautifully forested area.

No air pollution whatsoever and we were entertained by nature to the sweet chirping of so many birds, the barking deer and the sound of flowing streams fed by the many famous springs in the area. I cannot recall the pollution and nuisance caused by the marble factory.

In this connection, it was quite a coincidence that later in life while serving the Government in my professional capacity, I was a member of the committee to investigate the nuisance aspects of the quarry and recommend its closure. Those were heavenly days, and the walks that we used to take made us even closer to nature.

4. Helping in the Improvement and Upkeep of the Grounds

Besides the curricular activities, one of the first things we learnt was to help in improving the school compound and the playing fields by providing physical input to the best of our ability in a regular basis.

The father of one of the students was a high ranking technocrat in the Government and he made a team of skilled, semi-skilled and labour and we boys were there to provide shramadaan. So, during free time it was both play and work, Fr Moran would be around keeping an eye on us with his sharp whistle and at times, his famous back hand slaps, to keep us well behaved and not skipping our duties. Talking about behaviour and making sure we talked in English, there was the "donkey's tail" that would be pasted on to anyone failing in his duties.

On the happier side, there used to be the evening walks to the countryside and the evening singing and storytelling sessions after dinner and before going to sleep. Climbing to the top of Phulchoki mountain soon became quite popular with the boys.

These activities contributed to our attraction to nature and added to our profound love for the surrounding forest greenery.

5. Town Rides in Father's Land Rover

This was perhaps the most attractive part of our early days in Godavari. It was very thoughtful of Fr Moran that whenever he used to drive to town on business, he used to generally pack his trailer with some of us for a much-deserved outing.

We were then not only on a jolly trip but also would be his boys being introduced to some dignitary or the other. I would just like to highlight a few of them. They were visits which were both educative and interesting because we got to learn of the achievements of some of the luminaries of the day.

a) The Chiniya Lama and Boudhnath — This was especially unique to me because in those days the place was not as developed as today and I do not recall how much the Stupa dominated the place. Our visit was more as a pay courtesy to the Chinese representative assigned to Nepal whose residency was in Boudha.

During that time, the person who was also residing there and who was closely associated with the Chiniya Lama was Peter Aufshnitator, a land surveyor by profession, but at the time a refugee having escaped the jaws of Adolf Hitler from World War II.

Later we were to learn that he was one of the four prisoners-of-war of the "Seven Years in Tibet" fame. He decided to make it to Nepal after his Tibetan odyssey.

He subsequently proved to be a great asset to the country in the mapping of the northern areas bordering the Tibetan region of the People's Republic of China

b) Dr Toni Hagen — He was connected with the Swiss mission then; and we used to meet him in Ekanta Kuna, Jawalakhel. He was a very erudite person and perhaps the most travelled person within Nepal. His extensive travels and geographical study have been described in detail in his very engrossing book "Nepal", with the excellent coverage of numerous aspects of the geography of Nepal.

c) Two Dignitaries from America

The then USOM — the US Mission for overseas assistance — situated in Rabi Bhavan, Kalimati, used to be a frequent place where Fr Moran used to drop by. Two such visits with two remarkable ladies stand out. Both were memorable ones — one was a meeting with Madame Elenor Roosevelt and the other was with Madame Helen Keller.

Both were very fascinating and impressive to us schoolboys listening to their humanitarian work. I do not quite remember the topics narrated to us, but we were simply spellbound.

6. The First Batch of Fathers

Along with Fr Moran, who was Principal, there was Fr Frank Murphy, who was a Superior. There were additions in the number of Fathers with the years. Fr Suboulle and Fr Saxton were followed by Fr Tom Downing, Fr Moore and Fr Robert Meyer. They were very active and present to tackle us with our mischief both in the classes and the play grounds.

We were kept in tow and fully engrossed with the many educational and extracurricular activities. Fr Downing was well known for coaching his class for the play "Hansel and Gretel" which continued to be staged every year. Fr Moore kept us busy with mathematics and science in class and cricket in the field. Fr Meyer was our class teacher and he coached us in studies, drama acting, games and the like.

[AS1] Fr Murphy was our Geography and English teacher. We also used to sing regularly to the lovely music in his accordion. He was also a great storyteller who kept us engrossed with his never-ending story featuring Harry Warry and Billy Highboy.

Those were the unforgettable days including both study and play — equally educative and enjoyable.

7. The Conquest of Mt Everest

This was perhaps the most memorable event which took place in 1953 — Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay reached the summit of Mount Everest. I had the opportunity of leading the small group from school to assemble in Tundikhel (north-eastern corner of present-day Ratna Park) to welcome and cheer the victorious team. One slogan which I still remember very well was "Tenzing ko ho, Nepali ho". We were to learn later that Tenzing, who was Nepali by birth but who later settled in India, having conquered Everest was now an indispensable hero being claimed as their own national citizen by both Nepal and India. Sometime later, both Sir John Hunt, the leader of the victorious mountaineering expedition, and Sir Edmund Hillary also visited the school on separate occasions. The visit of Sir Edmund was noteworthy because he, being a beekeeper in New Zealand, and Fr Souboulle, had started a number of beehives set up in the school premises.

The two discussed and narrated interesting aspects of their experiences to us. These episodes more or less developed a fascination for mountaineering and the Himalayas in us boys.

8. Tracking the 1951 Top Class Std V

Before concluding, I thought it appropriate to relate some facets as to how the class transpired then and briefly relate about some of us — the classmates of the pioneering top Std V of 1951. Besides the six mentioned in the opening paragraph, there were some additions and departures with the years. Madan Shrestha and Nagendra Bhandari were promoted to our class in the following years and Shanta Rana joined in the final year 1956.

The departures from the class were Pradhumna, Dipak, Madan, Nagendra and myself. Finally, the five that appeared for the O-level Cambridge final exams from SXG in 1956 (having travelled to Patna SX) were Shanta, Ramesh, Umesh, Kendra and Mohan.

After leaving Godavari in 1954, I joined Victoria School, Kurseong, India, and did my O-level in 1956 too. It was a happy coincidence that Nagendra, Ramesh, Umesh, and myself were once more together in St. Joseph's College, North Point, Darjeeling for I.Sc. (then equivalent to 10+2). Our further education subsequently took us to different institutions — Ramesh and Umesh to Michigan St.ate University, USA;

Nagendra to Ranchi, Bihar, India, for studying Agriculture; and myself managed to get successfully enrolled in Roorkee University, UP, India — after quite a hassle and much uncertainty as was common in those very uncertain times on a scholarship provided to the Nepal Government under the Colombo plan.

Though we found ourselves in different institutions following different fields of studies, we continued to be in contact till the very end. Pradyumna was to go to the USA for work and Kendra returned to Kathmandu after a sprint with architectural studies in Ireland. Shanta went to Czechoslovakia and became a nuclear scientist.

Mohan and Madan stayed behind in Kathmandu to pursue their interests. All of us constituting the pioneering SXG group maintained our close relationship to the very end. I am forced to conclude very sadly that as of today, the three of us still around are Mohan, Madan and myself — the others having departed for their heavenly abode. May their souls rest in peace!

9. Some Further Concluding Remarks

Just to recollect that my association with SXG did not end with my departure from Godavari in 1954 (and till today), I would like to highlight that while studying in Victoria School in Kurseong, that relationship continued in so far as Fr Moore and Fr Meyer were to come to come to Kurseong to continue their scholastic duties and finally ordained as Priests in nearby St. Mary's College.

In fact, Fr Meyer was a constant visitor to Victoria School, where he was involved with the religious training of the Catholic community boys in the School and also supervised the drama that was presented as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebration of the School in 1955.

The four of us in St. Joseph's were also fortunate to be present for Fathers' ordination along with Fr Meyer's family from the USA. So, the close and happy bond was kept alive. Another activity that kept us bound to Godavari was our involvement in the founding of the Godavari Alumni Association and the regular meetings with FR Stiller as the Moderator who was subsequently followed by FR Dressman and FR Watrin.

The GAA activities used to be quite numerous and enthusiastically participated by old SXG boys of different age-groups. One final piece of my relationship with SXG, which I will always cherish was my continuing association with Fr Miler, Fr Coyne and Fr Donnelly, who were Principals of the junior school then, and who were instrumental in the proper education of our three sons. This meant I continued making frequent visits to the school right up to the 1980s.

I should finally add that even after my departure from the school — as part of my professional duties — I had the opportunity of providing advice and assisting the school in alleviating the drinking water problems to a modest degree in my capacity as an environmental engineering officer with the Nepal Government.

In those years, I was then associated with Fr Donnelly, Fr Niesen and Fr Locke, amongst others, to sort out the drinking water supply needs of both the junior and senior schools.

I also remember having met Dr. Fleming of the Shanta Bhavan Hospital fame, at the request of Fr Moran, and inspected Mahendra Bhavan School in Sano Gauchar, Gyaneshwor, on similar errands.

Those and many more incidents and enjoyable times associated with SXG will always remain fresh in my mind. We have been very truly trained, blessed and inspired by the School motto:

LIVE FOR GOD, LEAD FOR NEPAL!

Rattan Kumar Siddhi
1951 SXG Admission & 1956 SC Batch

THE CLASH OF BICKRAM AND SHUMSHERE RANAS

Nepal's history chronicles that, following the 1830s/1840s feuds among Thapas, Pandes, and Basnets, the young 29-year-old Jung Bahadur Kunwar took over power after the 1846 Kot Massacre to become Nepal's Prime Minister.

In 1856, King Surendra Bikram Shah, through his lunatic Lal Mohar, permitted Jung to establish his family's hereditary Prime Minister system in Nepal. With Jung's death in 1877, his younger brother Rana Uddip Singh became the next Prime Minister. But, in 1885, his own youngest brother Dhir Shumshere's sons assassinated him.

The Shumshere Ranas then ruled Nepal for the next sixty-six years, until 1951.Godavari School, as it was then called- not St. Xavier's- and not Saint Xavier's, was established by Father MD Moran on July 1, 1951, when Nripa Jung Rana, father of Kabir Jung of the 1957 batch, was the Education Minister during the coalition government of the Nepali Congress and Prime Minister Mohan ,S.J.B Rana.

At Godavari School, only the first name was uttered, with the surname either unknown or never uttered. It was only after much water had flowed down the Bagmati River, and I started to work in the late 1960s as a *karmachari* of Bijuli, Adda, that the native, hailing from Parbat/Myagdi, was enlightened about the true value and weight of the surname!
The Arena and the Bickram/Shumshere Clash The field below.



Kaiser Mahal, an open, rolling, undulating gaucharan, was the school's main playground — converted single-handedly with the Kharpan and Kodalo labour of 'Jackson' under the supervision of Father EL Watrin, then Vice-Principal and Mullah of the School's Games.

In that rough, Jackson-built main playground, Father Watrin fed the Senior boys with the hockey diet during the dry season and football during the wet season — and, of course, the Mullah started the cricket diet in 1958 also!

I cannot remember the month, but it was in early 1959, and we were playing hockey in that rough Jackson-built field. Father Watrin, the Mullah, was the referee. I always played as Back, both in hockey and football. Pradip Shumshere, a good hockey player and the younger brother of another good player, Prajwalla, was the Forward of my side.

Ananda Bickram was the Back from the other side, with Vinod Shumshere as his forward.

I am sure all my classmates; Uddhav ,S.J.B Rana, Narayan S Thapa, Basanta N Pradhan, Dhruba B Thapa, Kaiser Malla, Gautam Tuladhar, Madhav Joshi, Shiva Singh, Dhruba Basnet, Lalit B Shah, and me of these 11 apostles of 1959 with no Judas, the first six named have already left for thy kingdom come, and the remaining five are humbly awaiting! — must have, as players, seen the memorable Bickram-Shumshere clash of that day.

But as memory has faded away, I cannot remember who was playing on whose side. However, like Sanjay to the blind Dhritarashtra in the Mahabharat, I will try to relate, in short, the Bickram-Shumshere clash that I saw.

I did not get to see the preliminary Pradip-Ananda skirmishes, akin to those of the Pandavas and Kauravas, which were quite normal in hockey on that rough field, and Pradip, unlike Yudhishthi, was generally not generous with his opponents. Pradip must have done something seriously naughty to raise the temperature of the generally cool, sober Ananda.

All that I, as Mahabharat's Sanjay, saw was the hockey ball being played in midfield and Pradip casually towards the ball. But then, lo and behold! An angry Ananda Bickram, with his hockey stick raised over his head, came dashing towards the completely unaware Pradip Shumshere. Sanjay saw Ananda's stick 'clonking' on the cranium of Pradip, who 'clonked' to the ground!

Memory again fails me as to what exactly happened then. Fortunately, Pradip was not that badly 'clonked', but rumours floated around the school that Ananda would be rusticated.

It is likely that a tete-a-tete between the Bickram and Shumshere parents, both scions of Bal Narsingh Kunwar, (who cut into two Sher Bahadur Shahi, the assassinator of King Rana Bahadur Shah), satisfied Father Niesen, the Principal, and Father Watrin, the referee.

This led to the happy ending of the 1959 Bickram-Shumshere clash at Godavari!

As of this writing in 2026, sixty seven years after the epic Pandava-Kaurava duel, both gladiators are hale and hearty, with the Shumshere in England and the Bickram here in Nepal!

Santa Bahadur Pun
Batch of 1959, SXJ

TO ST. XAVIER'S, I AM EVER GRATEFUL

It feels like only yesterday that my late father, Parshuram Bhagut Mathema, a visionary, entrepreneur, classical musician, sportsman, and politician decided that I should study in an English-medium school. Having completed his Intermediate and Bachelor's degrees in India, he understood the growing importance of English education. That momentous decision, made in 1955 seventy years ago, was one of the greatest gifts he ever gave me.

The day he enrolled me at St. Xavier's School was, in retrospect, an act of remarkable foresight. From Kindergarten to Standard 4 at St. Xavier's, Jawalakhel, and Standard 5 to 10 at Godavari, I received not only an excellent education but also an enriching experience that shaped my character, discipline, and ambitions.

Those formative years were a blend of rigorous academics and vibrant extracurricular life. The Annual Sports Day, Phulchowki Hike, Sunday walks to Kitni and Murali Mountain, Glee Club, and the spelling, essay, and elocution contests remain deeply etched in my memory. I fondly remember playing Duke Senior in As You Like.

It and the convict in The Bishop's Candlesticks, winning the essay and spelling competitions, delivering Spartacus to the Gladiators, and representing my school in the 400-metre race. I also founded the Junior Red Cross and served as its first President, besides working as Student Council Secretary and Troop Leader. These experiences taught me leadership, responsibility, and compassion. St. Xavier's also gave me the academic foundation to excel, leading to distinctions in the Intermediate of Science (I.Sc.), selection for the Colombo Plan Scholarship, a Bachelor of Architecture with honours and a Ph.D. in a record 33 months.



Inspired by my Jesuit education, I dedicated my life to both academia and professional practice. I am profoundly grateful to have served as the first Program Officer of the Department of Architecture at the Institute of Engineering (IoE), and later as Campus Chief, Dean, and the first Principal of St. Xavier's College. I was also inspired to establish Xavier Academy, found the Asian Institute of Technology and Management (AITM), and lead international education and TVET projects in Cambodia, while working as a consultant in several countries.

As I reflect on these seventy years, I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude—to my father, whose vision set me on this path, and to the Jesuit Fathers and teachers, whose selfless dedication has moulded generations of students. Contributing to this seventy fifth Anniversary Souvenir magazine feels like coming home to the school that taught me to dream, to strive, and to serve.

Sriram Bhagat Mathe
Batch of 1965, SXG

A LIFETIME WITH ST. XAVIER'S: A JOURNEY ACROSS THREE GENERATIONS

Some journeys shape not only our future but also our identity. My association with St. Xavier's began with an entrance examination that remains vividly etched in my memory. As a young boy, I was interviewed and examined by an American Jesuit Father. I could not have imagined then that this would mark the beginning of a lifelong relationship with an institution that would profoundly influence my character, values, and outlook on life.



My first three years at St. Xavier's were spent in Grades 4, 5, and 6 at the Godavari campus. Boarding school was a world of its own. Living away from home at a young age taught us independence, resilience, and responsibility. The peaceful surroundings of Godavari, coupled with a disciplined daily routine, created an environment where learning extended far beyond the classroom.

I was privileged to be taught by Fathers - Coyne, Downing, and Miller. They were exceptional educators who believed that true education was about building character as much as achieving academic excellence. Through their example, they instilled in us the values of hard work, discipline, integrity, and service. These lessons have remained with me throughout my life and career.

One of the defining strengths of St. Xavier's was its emphasis on the all-round development of every student. We were encouraged to participate in swimming, dancing, elocution, drama, sports, and social work. These activities nurtured confidence, teamwork, leadership, and creativity. Looking back, I realized that many of life's most valuable lessons were learned outside the classroom.

From 1973 to 1977, I studied in Grades 7 through 10 at the Jawalakhel campus. Those years coincided with an important milestone in the school's history. St. Xavier's transitioned from the Senior Cambridge Examination Board to Nepal's School Leaving Certificate (SLC) system. My classmates and I had the distinction of being the first SLC graduating batch of St. Xavier's, a proud moment for both the school and its students.

My own educational journey was made possible by my father's remarkable vision. A Trans Himalayan businessman, he had done business in Lhasa from 1930 to 1949, after which he lived in Kalimpong from 1952 to 1961.

Following the China–India border dispute in 1962, he relocated to Kathmandu. Although he never had the opportunity to receive a formal education himself, he firmly believed that quality education was the greatest inheritance he could give his children. At one point, four of his children studied at St. Xavier's simultaneously.

That legacy has continued into the next generation, with one of my sons graduating from St. Xavier's and the other having studied there. Our family's association with the school now spans three generations, something I cherish with great pride.

Graduation did not mark the end of my relationship with St. Xavier's. From 1978 to 1987, I remained actively involved with the Godavari Alumni Association. Those were exciting and energetic years, during which we organised sports competitions, spelling contests, quiz competitions, and drama festivals that strengthened the bond among Xavierians and kept alumni connected with the school.

The International Youth Convention in 1985, where I served as the Secretary, marked a significant transition. Under the guidance of the moderator,

Father Watrin, the Alumni Association expanded its focus towards broader social service and community development. While this was a noble and meaningful direction, many alumni felt that, over time, the direct relationship between the Association and the school itself became less prominent than it had once been. After returning from the United States in 1995, I renewed my commitment to St. Xavier's and its alumni community.

I have had the privilege of serving as President of the St. Xavier's Alumni Association for two terms, and I presently serve as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees. These roles have allowed me to work alongside dedicated Xavierians who share a common desire to preserve our school's traditions while preparing it for the future.

Since its establishment in 1951, St. Xavier's has been recognised for its unwavering commitment to academic excellence and the holistic development of its students. It has consistently sought to produce graduates who are not only academically accomplished but also principled, compassionate, and socially responsible leaders. Many alumni, however, feel that maintaining these exceptionally high standards has become increasingly challenging in recent years. Rather than viewing this as criticism, I see it as an opportunity for all of us to contribute towards restoring and strengthening the Xavierian tradition of excellence.

Today, with the American Jesuits no longer serving in Nepal and the number of Indian Jesuits also gradually declining, it is only natural that the alumni step forward to play a greater role in supporting the school. Those of us who have benefited from a Xavierian education have both the responsibility and the privilege of helping ensure that future generations receive the same transformative experience. This year, our alumni community undertook the ambitious task of raising funds for Xavier Hall in Godavari. Together, we successfully raised over Rs. 1.4 crore, a remarkable demonstration of the generosity, commitment, and enduring affection that Xavierians have for their alma mater.

As the coordinator of this initiative, I draw immense confidence from what we have achieved together. It has reaffirmed my belief that the alumni community can accomplish much more. If we unite around a common purpose, we have the experience, resources, and passion to make a lasting contribution to the continued growth and excellence of St. Xavier's.

Today, the Jesuits administer six schools across Nepal. It is my sincere hope that at least one of these institutions continues to embody the original Xavierian ideals that inspired generations of students: uncompromising academic standards combined with the holistic development of young men and women who excel not only in scholarship but also in sports, public speaking, the arts, leadership, and service to society.

St. Xavier's has given us far more than an education. It has shaped our character, broadened our horizons, and instilled in us the values that continue to guide our lives.

As alumni, we are not merely guardians of cherished memories—we are custodians of a legacy and partners in shaping its future. It is now our collective responsibility to ensure that future generations of Xavierians inherit an institution that is as inspiring and transformative as the one we were fortunate to experience.

Mahendra Sakya
Batch of 1977, SXJ

THEN TO NOW: A GROWTHFUL JOURNEY

Many moons ago, with my parents' blessings and a stroke of good fortune, I entered St. Xavier's, Godavari, as a young student. Half a century later, I find myself still woven into the same family, now as a teacher. Time, indeed, has a way of moving swiftly.

Looking back, my life here has been nothing short of a continuous journey of growth. In an all-boys boarding school, I learned to adapt, take responsibility, and flourish academically, personally, and spiritually.

Time management, independence, interdependence, teamwork, sportsmanship, communication, collaboration, and faith became not just lessons, but lifelong companions.

As a young adult, I returned to Godavari as a prefect, still charting my path. Later, joining the teaching faculty opened a deeper dimension. Guiding students, witnessing their development, and nurturing their natural curiosity sparked in me a profound sense of purpose, one rooted in critical thinking, empowerment, and motivation. Over the years, my values matured, and I came to realize that lifelong learning carries a deep personal calling.

The lively shouts and joyful chaos of students transformed into the vibrant sound of learning. What began as a profession slowly evolved into a true vocation, an ongoing act of service.



Through every season of life; singlehood, marriage, and parenthood, I continue to feel like that same young boy who once stepped onto the grounds of St. Xavier's, Godavari. Each day refines those early lessons, polishing the values that shape who I am. Such is the journey of life.

Laxman Gurung
Batch of 1985,
Senior Vice Principal, SXG

A XAVERIAN THAT HAD TO BE – WITH GRATITUDE TO MY ALMA MATER!

If anyone wants to understand what a "genetically defined" Xaverian is, I can proudly vouch to be one. It was simple genetics: I was born to be a pure Xaverian, as my dad graduated from St. Xavier's in 1961 and my mother was an English teacher when she was pregnant with me. As destiny would have it, I was admitted to St. Xavier's Godavari in 1975 under Father Miller—a prolific P0rincipal, well-known figure, and future distinguished anthropologist of Nepal. Soon after, Father Coyne took over as principal.

There was a stark contrast in personality between the two: while both were strict disciplinarians, Father Miller was an artist and laureate, whereas Father Coyne brought a U.S. Marine Corps personality—tough and uncompromising in his dealings. Under their supervision and mentorship, my Xaverian journey began. Later, both of my daughters graduated from St. Xavier's, and my son spent his foundational years in this prestigious institution. To this day, we are all immensely proud to be Xaverians, and I hope to see my grandchildren become part of this great legacy as well.

Nestled at the base of Phulchowki Hill (which we proudly boasted as one of the highest peaks in the Kathmandu Valley), St. Xavier's Godavari taught us to stand tall and strong from the tender age of five. Winters were chilly, and we were taught to brave the cold in blue sweaters and shorts—sometimes even barefoot—learning early on to appreciate the simple basics of life



The food was equally simple: boiled and scrambled eggs, chapati (sometimes chillo, topped with meat fat), chana, papad, lentils, and rice, with a constant craving for the meat served twice a week. We appreciated these basics as part of growing up.

One of the finest aspects of growing up at St. Xavier's was learning to balance academics and athletics. This balance became second nature to all of us. We would wake up for morning drills, exercise, march past, and assembly, go to classes, and then eagerly look forward to the 3:30 PM bell for "games time". From a very young age, we were exposed to a wide range of sports—a touch of Western influence that made us a fortunate few in Nepal at the time. We learned kickball (the foundation for football), throwball (which taught us the basics of volleyball), alongside traditional sports like basketball, football, roller skating, croquet, swimming, and handball. Other activities like

stilts, high bars, and gymnastics built our physical capabilities. We were always meaningfully occupied.

Beyond sports, we were introduced to drama, dance, musical instruments, elocution contests, math and spelling competitions, Cub Scouts, Scouts, and treasure hunts. Each class had its signature event; for instance, in Grade 5, we organized "The Greatest Show on Earth" (featuring circus and acrobatics) alongside a production of Hansel and Gretel. We were also immersed in traditional folk music and dance. I still vividly remember performing an improvised Bhangra dance (later incorporating khukuris) in Class 6 in front of the Queen at the Royal Palace—a performance that earned us high praise.

This vibrant culture continued into our senior years once we transitioned to St. Xavier's Jawalakhel. We all looked forward to becoming day scholars and wearing the iconic sky-blue shirts and white trousers (a unique combination that made us look sharp in front of our neighbors at St. Mary's). The 3:30 PM games time continued, though team names shifted from animals (Lions, Tigers, Panthers...) to color codes (Gold, Blue, Silver...). Naturally, everyone boasted about having or hoping to have a girlfriend at the girls' school next door (coincidentally, my wife is a St. Mary's alumna).

In reflection, we may have been average students compared to those elsewhere who purely memorized textbooks to pass the School Leaving Certificate (referred to as the "iron gate" back then).

But St. Xavier's developed us into well-rounded individuals ready to face life's changing challenges. Early guidance on respecting women as future mothers and treating everyone equally, regardless of caste or creedwas deeply ingrained in our upbringing, long before "gender mainstreaming" and "social inclusion" became trendy terminology. I am deeply grateful to this institution for making me who I am today: professionally grounded, successful, a devoted son and father, and still active in sports (regularly playing weekend football with my fellow Xaverians).

To sum it up, I am a proud, fun-loving, patriotic, well-rounded, and responsible Xaverian. I owe endless gratitude to this institution, to which I will forever be indebted for the lessons and experiences that taught me to "Live for God and Lead for Nepal."

Sanjay Karki
Batch of 1986, SXG

MY XAVERIAN STORY

My story at St. Xavier's began when I entered Class 5 in Godavari, but the journey that shaped me as a Xavierian started even before that. Before enrolling, I was visiting St. Xavier's Godavari with my parents when during the school tour, I witnessed a one-act play at the Godavari Hall. It was performed by students younger than me who were on stage, giving speeches, performing, singing, and dancing—things that I had no courage whatsoever to do.

I remember being in disbelief, and also in fear, thinking I would never have the courage to do anything like that in life. That was my first impression of St. Xavier's; too smart, too confident, too progressive, and almost a little too intimidating.

I was born in Germany and moved to Nepal at the age of eight in the early 1980s. Since German was the only language I spoke, I was homeschooled for a year to get the hang of the basics of Nepali before getting enrolled at Shahid Dharma Bhakta Madhyamik Vidyalaya, the only school that accepted me with my limited Nepali speaking and writing skills.

After two years at Shahid Dharma Bhakta, I was finally ready to transfer to another school. I overcame the wall of "paryayavachi shabda" in the entrance exam for St. Xavier's Godavari, and the view from the top of that wall foreshadowed the unforgettable journey that would follow.

My two years in Godavari were magical. They taught me independence, autonomy, and the ability to carry myself. Those lessons have stayed with me, even now, at fifty.



I remember them helping me overcome my fear of the stage and giving me the confidence to act, speak, and participate—something I do extremely well at this stage in life, or so I believe.

Recently, there has been a huge surge in discussions on topics related to religious conversion and the contribution of Christian schools to that narrative. However, after spending eight years at St. Xavier's, all the way through St. Xavier's College, this idea was a foreign concept, introduced to me only during my time at university overseas. Yes, we prayed during assemblies and meals, but I see those moments as expressions of structure and discipline, not coercion.

I remained Hindu because what the Jesuit Fathers gave us were values, not religion. This is why I have immense respect for the Fathers who came to Nepal in the 1950s, because the foundation they laid has withstood the test of time.

I remember Fr Donnelly, Fr Downing, and Fr Coyne dearly. Rest in peace. Despite giving me so much, my school didn't prepare me for one thing —women. After all, attending an all-boys school has its own repercussions. But everything else—the character-building, the worldview, the grounding—St. Xavier's gave me it all. And to every young Xavierian today, I want to say this: "You've been given a strong foundation. What you do with that is your choice. Use it well, use it positively, and the world will fall into place. It might sound cliché and philosophical, but at its core, it means this: you've been in good hands.

This place does not teach you to use a tool; it teaches you to create one. Once St. Xavier's becomes your alma mater, remember to give back. That is what community truly means and what keeps this legacy alive.

"Once a Xaverian, Always a Xaverian!"

Krishna Bikram Shah
Batch of 1992, SXG

LIVE FOR GOD AND LEAD FOR NEPAL



Having spent my childhood and early adulthood as a student of St. Xavier's Godavari, St. Xavier's Jawalakhel, and St. Xavier's Maitighar—then as an alumnus, and now as a parent—I feel deeply privileged to have been part of the St. Xavier's family for forty years. Reminiscing about the past, thousands of memories dance through my mind.

St. Xavier's Godavari: The Hostel Days

St. Xavier's Godavari meant hostel life. Strict daily routines—covering everything from morning wake-up calls, physical drills, and mealtimes to evening storytime, co-curricular activities, and lights-out—greatly shaped our sense of discipline. Anyone who attended Godavari will forever recall the infamous "Donkey Stick" and the consequences it brought to those who frequented it. The best part of those days was Br. Karpenski's craft workshop, where we crafted wooden trucks, horses, chairs, and toys. What made SXG truly amazing was that there were prizes for everything.

Members of the weekly winning team received postcards, and any team that accumulated five weekly awards earned a bonus group picnic in the nearby forest he picnic menu was always the same, but beloved: Buns and Takura juice! Winners of poetry and essay competitions were rewarded with comic books—with the luckiest receiving Archies comics. The most unexpected prize I ever won was as champion of the annual swimming competition: a ride in the car of the chief guest, who was U.S. Ambassador at the time!

Waving flags to welcome visiting state guests, such as Queen Elizabeth II and the King of Spain during their visits to the Botanical Garden, remain vivid memories. Our principal back then, Fr Donnelly, was a huge sports enthusiast. Thanks to him, as Class 6 students, we got to watch all the 1990 World Cup football matches live on TV —even in the middle of the night.

St. Xavier's Jawalakhel: The High School Years

Moving from Godavari to Jawalakhel was a major transition: from junior school to high school, from boarder to day scholar, from blue trousers and a white shirt to white trousers and a blue shirt, and from a strictly English-speaking environment to a campus with no language restrictions. Bicycles were the most common mode of transport, while those who commuted by bus rode in the blue Sajha buses hired by the school. Fr Coyne's morning assemblies in the courtyard of the old Durbar building created lasting memories. Fr Bill Robins seemed to be everywhere—he attended Nepali classes alongside us, taught us Physics, pushed us to our limits on the sports field, and showed us planets through his telescope from the school roof at night. Computers were still in their infancy back then, and I learned to type on his IBM machine.

Returning as a Parent

Shifting roles from student to parent has been a bittersweet experience. What was once an all-boys school is now co-educational, complete with new buildings and a updated school uniform. Yet, the school gate remains the same, as does the roundabout. The bougainvillea in the courtyard still blossoms, and the goalposts and basketball courts in the back field look unchanged.

Om Sir is still coaching the school football team, and Nirmal Sir still hosts the school fete bingos.Every school program still opens with "St. Xavier's, St. Xavier's... gyana ko batti balideu..."—and even today, Parents' Night feels incomplete unless at least one class performs a dance to Gopal Yonzon's iconic song, "Paschim kohi purba ghar... aagan tara eutai ho!" Above all, the most enduring element has been the core values instilled by St. Xavier's and passed down across generations.

The Xavierian Spirit in Action

In 2020, I appeared for the Public Service Commission (Lok Sewa) examination for a single open position as Joint Secretary to the Government of Nepal (11th Level). At the time, I was an 8th Level officer, making me a clear underdog among the candidates—a win would mean a rare triple promotion for me, whereas other applicants were already at the 10th Level. During the interview, after several routine questions, one of the panel members asked why an alumnus of St. Xavier's was still serving in Nepal—and in government service, no less. Without a second thought, the answer sprang naturally to my mind

"That is what St. Xavier's taught me —to Live for God and Lead for Nepal."

Robin Basnet
Batch of 1995, SXJ

75 YEARS, COUNTLESS MEMORIES

Looking back on my years at St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, fills me with immense pride and gratitude. Having studied there from Class one to ten, I can truly say that those ten years laid the foundation for who I am today.

I was always passionate about sports and actively involved in extracurricular activities—whether it was Scouts, Sports Day, Parents' Day, One-Act and Three-Act plays, or Xavier's Day. These were the highlights we eagerly anticipated each year—moments that brought learning to life and helped us grow beyond the classroom.

The teachers, Jesuit Fathers, and Jesuit volunteers at St. Xavier's were truly exceptional. They were more than educators; they were mentors, guides, and friends who dedicated themselves to shaping young minds. Many of us remain connected with them even today, cherishing their guidance and wisdom. We fondly remember those who have passed away, whose legacy continues to inspire us. Their tireless commitment, patience, and care left a lasting impact on all of us and instilled in us values of discipline, compassion, and service.

Our trips to HMI, Darjeeling, and the mentorship we received from these incredible educators left a lifelong impression on me. The Jesuit education system, rooted in forming "men for others," continues to be my moral compass. Though St. Xavier's was a boys' school during my time, its influence continues through my own family. I now have two daughters, and I often share stories of my Xavier's days—the camaraderie, the values, and the spirit that shaped us.



For the past eight years, I have remained closely connected with my alma mater through our Saturday Football Club, where Senior Xavierians from various batches gather to play on the same back field where so many memories were made. It's not just a game; it's a way of keeping our Xavierian spirit alive.

As St. Xavier's celebrates seventy glorious years of excellence, I feel deeply honoured to be part of its legacy. The Jesuit Fathers, volunteers, and our remarkable teachers have transformed countless lives, mine included.

Whatever I am today, I owe to their education, mentorship, and the values I received within the red-bricked walls of our beloved St. Xavier's School.

Pawan Rizal
Batch of 1995 , SXJ

WALKING THE CORRIDORS OF TIME: A LEGACY IN BLUE AND WHITE



It feels like a lifetime ago—1985, to be exact—when I first stepped onto the grounds of St. Xavier's Jawalakhel as a Grade 1 student. Back then, the lush green backfield didn't just feel like a playground; it felt like a humongous, endless kingdom where every game of football was a World Cup final.

I still remember the unique silence and the echoing footsteps while walking through the corridors of our iconic Rana-era buildings. There was a certain weight to those walls, a sense of history and discipline that quietly seeped into us.

By the time I graduated in 1995, those halls had done more than just educate me; they had built the foundation of the man I was to become.

Today, my life is defined by precision. As a Senior Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at the National Trauma Center, specializing in joint replacement surgeries, I spend my days restoring mobility and "fixing" frames.

But I've always believed that while I may fix the bones, it was my Jesuit education that gave me my backbone. The values of "living for others" and the grit I learned at SXJ are the real tools I carry into the operating theatre every morning.

The most beautiful part of this journey, however, is seeing the cycle continue. This year, as our school celebrates its seventy fifth Anniversary, the pride I feel is doubled. My older son graduated from SXJ just this year, and my younger son is still walking the same lush green backfield, finding his own path.

A lot has changed now. The old buildings are gone. There is no more iconic blue-and-white school dress, but the spirit of being a Xavierian remains a lifelong badge of honour.

Happy seventy-fifth Anniversary, St. Xavier's! Here's to many more decades of excellence and service.

Dr. Rishi Bista
Batch of 1995, SXJ
Senior Consultant
Orthopaedic Surgeon
National Trauma Center, NAMS

MY XAVERIAN STORY

It was a crisp, chilly April morning in 1995—my first day in Class 1 at St. Xavier's Godavari. I recall the warmth of the room as the sun's rays peeked through the windows onto our little hands, the wooden floor thudding beneath our black leather shoes, and the cozy, secure feeling of the navy-blue sweaters and blazers.



I was too young to appreciate then that I was part of a unique chapter in the institution's history. It was the year that our school became co-ed after more than four decades of being an all-boys school.

On the first day, everyone in my class was quiet—we were new, didn't know each other, and were on our best behaviour. But as time went on, we became more comfortable and, sometimes, naughty, as children do.

I enjoyed walking through the wide green fields of the school compound, running through the corridors, bouncing basketballs, skating (when it was still allowed), and swimming. I vividly remember the feeling of togetherness when, every morning, we sang the school songs in assembly.

Every day, we shared a simple yet varied lunch—eggs, beaten rice, daalmoth, chiura, chapatis and vegetables, and Rumba noodles—a kind of potluck with friends sitting together on the green grass, forming a circle in front of Faber Hall. I recall kicking the plum trees to make the ripe

I was the school team captain for the 'Jaguars'. It was an immense privilege to lead my team during Sports Days. I recall racing on the tracks of the 'big field' and winning medals and trophies that made my family proud.

During the annual function days, the students competed with the teachers—always coming close to winning, but never quite doing so.

Looking back, being part of the first co-ed batch and holding the senior-most position for five years wasn't just a title—it was an experience that taught me resilience, leadership, and friendship. These memories aren't just stories; they are pieces of who I am today.

In my current employment as a development worker, my work focuses on the well-being of underprivileged communities and individuals.

Today, I understand how this school provided the foundation that helped me become who I am and brought me to where I am today.

Now, as a mother of a young girl, I am hopeful that my little one will someday be fortunate enough to be a part of this amazing institution, create her own stories, and build the foundations for a life of service dedicated to making this world a better place for all.



Arishma Shrestha
Batch of 1995/1996 to 2006, SXG

FROM ST. XAVIER'S TO ST. MICHAEL'S: MY JOURNEY WITH PURPOSE

It all began thirty years ago. The year was 1995 when I stepped into Grade one at St. Xavier's School, Godavari—a young child with a schoolbag, away from the comfort of home and family, ready to begin a new journey. Little did I know what was in store for me. From Godavari to St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, for Grades seven to ten, and then to St. Xavier's College, Maitighar, for my Intermediate in Science, I spent twelve formative years within the Xavierian family. Those years did more than educate me; they shaped who I am.

St. Xavier's taught me how to learn, but more importantly, how to live. It wasn't limited to academics; it was something beyond that. We were taught compassion, discipline, and resilience, and to face the world with confidence and integrity.



The lessons learned on the playgrounds, in assemblies, during debates, and through sports have stayed with me throughout my journey. The school's motto —"Live for God, Lead for Nepal"—was not just a set of words; it became a compass, gently guiding my choices even when the path ahead felt uncertain.

I went on to pursue my MBBS from Kathmandu University, followed by joining the Nepal Police as a Medical Doctor in 2014, where I was commissioned as an Inspector. Police basic training tested me physically and mentally, and I was able to excel in it, earning the overall All-Rounder Award.

That moment reaffirmed something I had long believed, the foundation laid during my school years—mental toughness, teamwork, balance, and discipline—had prepared me well.

My journey continued with an MD in Anesthesiology from the Institute of Medicine, Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital, alongside continued service at Nepal Police Hospital.

Today, I am pursuing a Fellowship in Trauma Neuro-Anesthesia and Neuro-Critical Care at St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, a Level 1 Trauma Centre affiliated with the University of Toronto. Working in a world-renowned institution has been an honour and an opportunity to further my medical career.

Looking back, the journey from St. Xavier's to St. Michael's would not have been possible without the unwavering support of many. I owe my utmost respect and love to my family, my teachers, and my friends.

To my parents, whose sacrifice, faith, and strength carried me this far, thank you. To my teachers, who always saw the potential in me and helped shape me, thank you.

To my friends, who shared classrooms, laughter, struggles, dreams, victories, and painful defeats, thank you for being there.

And lastly, to my wife, Riya, and my son, Aarav, you have been my strength and my anchor. I thank you for standing beside me through thick and thin.

Be it the chapati roti that still runs in my blood, nail-biting football matches during the Marshal Moran Cup, hiking to Phulchowki, or skating down the lanes of Godavari, these memories will forever bring a smile to my face.

I look forward to returning home after completing my fellowship, carrying forward the values with which I began: to Live for God and to Lead for Nepal.

Dr. Abinash Dhoj Joshi, MD
Batch of 2005, SXJ
St. Michael's Hospital, University of Toronto
Ontario, Canada

THE VALUES THAT STAY

Recently, while celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of when my batch first started Grade one, I was reminded of where we began and just how far we have come. We had all reinvented ourselves multiple times over, yet the core principles instilled within the walls of St. Xavier's remain our constant anchor.



Even with our differing opinions and life paths, I could see a common thread that bound us all: a deep-seated commitment to honesty and compassion. In a world where the content and discourse on social media create a constant chorus of clashing values, you will inevitably have to decide which of your own values are non-negotiable.

This commitment to character wasn't just taught in the abstract. It was supported by a second, equally important hallmark of St. Xavier's, its insistence on looking beyond the grades. The school's focus on holistic development was its true strength. We weren't pushed to excel only in academics or sports, but to become well-rounded individuals. I remember the freedom of exploring different after-school activities every year, from creative writing to the keyboard club.

The only keyboard I've used in the last decade is the one connected to my PC or the on-screen one on my phone. But at that time, my teacher's calm method of breaking the tune down into small, patient steps taught me a lasting lesson in perseverance. This encouragement to experiment allowed us to decide which interests we wanted to welcome into our own identities, without pressure. The school provided the opportunities, but the onus of exploring them was always ours—an early and important lesson in personal agency.

Our jobs, academic pursuits, and even hobbies will inevitably change. Today, I see a clear parallel between the various characters I play—as a son, a husband, a friend, a product manager, an occasional singer—and the list of subjects on an old school report card. Some roles may require more focus than others at different times, but what matters most is the character of the person playing these characters. My values have taken a long time to develop, but St. Xavier's undoubtedly set me on the right course.

Sincerity gives you a clear conscience. Compassion helps you connect with others, and knowing your values builds self-esteem. These are vital ingredients for achieving that peace of mind which, for me, is worth more than all the excellence, achievement, possessions, or status in the world.

Nikhil Ratna Shakya
Batch of 2009, SXJ

TWO WHEELS, ONE FUTURE: LEADING CLIMATE ACTION AT ST. XAVIER'S

St. Xavier's High School is more than just a school to me—it is where my roots belong. As a proud member of the SXJ Batch of 2010, I never imagined that one day I would return not as a student, but with a mission to give back to the institution that shaped my knowledge, values, and character.

Currently, I work as a Lead Researcher at Nepal Cycle Society, a non-profit organization promoting sustainable mobility. After completing my Master's in Development Studies at Kathmandu University School of Arts—with a focus on mobility behavior and the promotion of walking, cycling, and public transportation—I always carried a dream: to collaborate with a school to launch a "Cycle to School" campaign as a practical response to urban climate change.

For a long time, that dream remained just an idea due to my busy schedule. However, one question persisted: Where should I begin? The answer felt natural—my own alma mater, St. Xavier's. I reached out to Juna Ma'am from the SXJ Alumni Association, not with a grand proposal, but with a simple intention: to return, share my knowledge, and start a meaningful conversation with students.

The Beginning of the Initiative

On May 27, 2024, I finally returned to St. Xavier's to conduct an awareness session for students in Grades eight, nine, and ten. Under the theme "Change Starts with YOU," I spoke about the health, environmental, and economic benefits of cycling. Approximately five hundred forty students participated, learning how active mobility can help address climate change.



We also recognized students who were already cycling regularly; seven of them received reflective jackets sponsored by Pancbike as a token of encouragement. Seeing their confidence and pride was deeply inspiring.

Celebrating World Bicycle Day

On June 3, 2024, we celebrated World Bicycle Day at school. Many students were unaware of this global observance, which made the event even more interactive and meaningful. Seventeen students from Grades 7 to 10 cycled to school that day. Their excitement served as a reminder that cycling is not only a climate solution, but also a joyful and empowering experience.

Skill Building and Infrastructure Development

In July 2024, in collaboration with the SXJ FOZ Club and the SXJ Alumni Association, we organized a basic cycling skills and maintenance workshop for Grade six students.

Led by cycling expert Uttam Manandhar from Laxmi Cycle Center, the workshop trained forty students in essential riding and repair techniques. Interactive activities like the Slow Cycle Race made the session lively, and it was wonderful to see teachers participating alongside students.

As more students began cycling, the need for proper infrastructure became clear. Thanks to financial support from the Batch of 1992, a dedicated cycle stand was constructed near the school entrance—marking one of the most meaningful milestones of this journey. The facility was inaugurated on September 21, 2024, in celebration of World Car-Free Day, and named the **"Fr Miller Memorial Cycle Stand"** in loving memory of Fr Casper J. Miller, my optional English teacher from Class six. On the same day, we hosted a short cycle rally that brought together one hundred and eighty nine students from Classes three to twelve. Seeing such widespread participation filled me with immense pride and hope.

The Birth of The Big Wheels Club

The positive response from students encouraged me to look beyond one-time events. To sustain momentum, we established a permanent cycling club for students in Classes 6 through 10: The Big Wheels Club. Initially, I was unsure how many students would show interest, but over fifty applied to join. This overwhelming response reflected a growing awareness of and enthusiasm for sustainable mobility. Now, as The Big Wheels Club approaches its first anniversary, I feel deeply grateful. With the support of my team—cyclists Rabindra Bajracharya, Manju Shakya, and Sulochana Maharjan, alongside Uttam Manandhar and Laxmi Shrestha from Laxmi Cycle Center, and the SXJ Alumni—we have strengthened the school's cycling culture and infrastructure.

Today, seeing more students cycle to school reassures me that even small interventions can inspire long-lasting behavioral change.

Cycling Toward a Better Future

For me, active mobility is about far more than transportation—it is about health, environmental responsibility, and conscious decision-making. Walking and cycling improve physical and mental well-being, reduce air pollution, and lower carbon emissions. At a time when climate change increasingly affects our daily lives, how we choose to travel becomes a powerful form of climate action.

Students are the future leaders of our society. The habits they form today will shape healthier communities and a cleaner environment tomorrow. I strongly believe that if we choose to walk more, cycle more, and use public transport more, we can collectively create lasting, positive change.

After all, change truly starts with YOU.

Rubin Singh Maharjan
Batch of 2010, SXJ
Lead Researcher,
Nepal Cycle Society

MY JOURNEY IN ST. XAVIER'S

Looking back at my school years, I realize they were some of the most transformative and memorable days of my life. Whenever I am asked about it, I always mention that it was my school that helped me become who I am today. What stands out most to me is how involved I was in extra-curricular activities—sports, plays, competitions, and cultural events. Each one felt like a new adventure and gave me memories that I still carry with me.



I can vividly remember the excitement before going on stage during school plays, the nervous laughter shared with classmates, and the feeling of being part of something bigger than myself. Those activities were not just pastimes; they helped shape my confidence and creativity.

Among the many people who made my school life meaningful, Hemant Sir will always hold a special place in my heart. His encouragement and wisdom made me believe in myself at times when I doubted myself. Alongside my teachers, my two closest friends, Daisy and Smriti, were my pillars of joy. Together, we laughed endlessly at silly jokes, created inside stories that only we understood, and found comfort in knowing we had each other. The funny little moments—the ones that seemed small at the time—are the ones I cherish the most now.

My greatest personal challenge during those years was finding my voice. I started out shy and hesitant, but slowly, through participating in different activities and with the support of those around me, I became more outspoken and confident. That growth is one of my proudest achievements.

To those walking the halls of my school today, my advice is simple: do anything and everything you can while you are here. Join activities, try out for events, talk to new people, take risks, and don't hold back.

These years are the foundation of who you will become, and the more you embrace them, the more stories, growth, and friendships you will carry with you long after you leave.

Shraddha Prasai
Batch of 2011, SXJ

REFLECTIONS OF A XAVERIAN LAWYER

Writing for the seventy-fifth Anniversary Souvenir Magazine is a humbling opportunity to look back at the roots that nurtured my growth. When I first walked through the gates of St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, the tagline "Live for God, Lead for Nepal" felt like a grand, distant ideal. Today, after years in the legal profession, I realize it was a quiet promise I was making to my future self—a commitment to a life defined by service rather than mere success.

My journey as an advocate has been shaped less by the titles I hold and more by the moral compass that was calibrated during my time in school. We were raised on a set of Honor Codes that taught us to care for our community, to value truth above all, and to remain humble in the face of achievement. In the often contentious world of litigation, where the pressure to win can be overwhelming, I constantly find myself returning to those quiet lessons of kindness and cooperation. St. Xavier's taught me that the law is not just a tool for competition, but a vehicle for social justice and the common good.

The school's mission to form "men and women for others" became the internal anchor of my career. Whether navigating complex commercial disputes or providing legal counsel to government institutions, I feel a deep-seated responsibility to act with the integrity expected of us as students. The school didn't just teach me how to analyze a syllabus; it taught me how to evaluate



the world through a well-formed conscience. I am filled with profound gratitude for the teachers who mentored us. They taught us to view our education not as a personal trophy, but as a gift to be used in service of our country. Any professional milestone I have reached is simply a reflection of that foundation.

I have learned that to truly "Lead for Nepal" as a Xaverian means to stand up for what is fair, to treat every individual with dignity, and to remain a lifelong student of truth. As we celebrate this historic seventy-fifth year, I carry this spirit with me, striving to ensure that my work in the legal field remains a "good turn" for the human community. I am a lawyer by trade, but I am forever a Xaverian by the values that guide my heart.

Abhisek Sitaula
Batch of 2014, SXJ
Advocate

HONORING 75 YEARS OF GREATNESS: A XAVIERIAN'S PERSPECTIVE

As we celebrate the seventy fifth anniversary of St. Xavier's School, I find myself reflecting on the profound impact this institution has had on my life.

I have treasured memories, priceless experiences, and a profound sense of thankfulness for belonging to this prestigious community as a proud Xavierian.

St. Xavier's has been more than just a school, it has been a loving environment where friendships last a lifetime and character is developed. The school's philosophy, which has its roots in the Jesuit tradition, emphasizes the value of education for both individual achievement and societal advancement. This all-encompassing approach has molded me into the person I am now by instilling in me the virtues of honesty, empathy, and fortitude.

I had the chance to participate in a variety of extra-curricular activities while I was a student, which was very important to my personal development.

Every experience I had, whether it was competing in school speech contests, joining the environment club, or representing the school in interschool competitions, taught me the value of perseverance, teamwork, and leadership.



My relationship with St. Xavier's continued after I graduated. I started participating actively in the SXJ Alumni Association, a lively group committed to preserving the ties that bind us all.

Among the noteworthy occasions is the yearly Alumni Meet, which provides a fantastic chance for former students to reunite and remember their school days. In order to help and inspire the next generation, the alumni organization also hosts mentorship programs and workshops.

Being part of the SXJ Alumni has enriched my life in countless ways. I have been able to network with other graduates who are all doing well in their areas and gain insight from their experiences.

The common dedication to improving society and the feeling of community have been incredibly motivating.

One of the most rewarding experiences was collaborating on community service projects, which not only benefited those in need but also reinforced the values instilled in us during our time at St. Xavier's. These initiatives have taught me the importance of giving back and the power of collective action in creating meaningful change.

To the current students and future generations of Xaverians, I offer a few words of advice. Whether it is extra-curricular or academic, seize any chance that presents itself. Finally, let the values of St. Xavier's—excellence, service, and compassion, guide you in all your endeavors.

As you embark on your journey, strive to be agents of positive change in the world, carrying forward the legacy of this remarkable institution.

In celebrating seventy five years of St. Xavier's School, we honor the past, celebrate the present, and look forward to a bright and promising future.

Here's to many more years of shaping young minds and building a better world!

Kripa Shakya
Batch of 2014-SXG
Batch of 2016- SXJ

GOOD OLD DAYS

When I first walked through the gates of St. Xavier's Jawalakhel in Grade five, I was timid, quiet, and unsure of myself. I came from a much smaller school and was definitely overwhelmed.

The first cycle test confirmed that feeling. I scored 17 out of 30 on my Social Studies exam. I remember staring at the paper, surprised more than disappointed. I had never scored that low before. Two cycle tests later, I scored 30 out of 30. I still don't fully know how it happened, but for one day, I was the talk of the town—by "town," I mean Grade 5. What I could not have known then was that SXJ would become the place where I learned not just how to study, but how to show up for others and for myself.

Life at SXJ extended far beyond academics. Academics mattered, but so did character. Morning prayers, the honour codes, and a culture that encouraged reflection slowly shaped the way I thought and acted.



Helpfulness was never treated as an extra-curricular virtue; it was woven into daily life. Whether it was classmates supporting one another, teachers making time beyond the classroom, or students organizing donation drives for communities in need, service felt natural, not forced.

SXJ also pushed me beyond my comfort zone. Leadership opportunities came early and often. I learned to speak up, take responsibility, and lead with empathy. Sports, including tennis, gave me confidence and discipline in a setting where such opportunities were rare.

Friendships formed in the classroom, backfields, and corridors grew into lifelong bonds. To this day, the people I turn to first are my friends from SXJ.

By the time I stood on stage in Grade 10 to deliver the farewell speech on behalf of my class, I realized how much I had changed. The boy who once avoided the spotlight now found meaning in representing others.

The impact of SXJ did not end at graduation. Two summers ago, I decided to build a library at a government school in Kathmandu. had a plan. Beyond that, mostly uncertainty. What I did have was faith in the Xavierian community.

That faith was rewarded. Members of the SXJ community donated hundreds of books simply because a fellow Xavierian was trying to give back.

Years after graduating, people still showed up. That moment made something very clear to me: SXJ does not just educate students; it builds a lifelong commitment to community.

Today, I am studying on a full scholarship at a great liberal arts college in the US and preparing to work this summer at a global consulting firm. I do not see these as standalone achievements, but as reflections of the foundation SXJ gave me. The habits I rely on, the way I approach challenges, and the instinct to keep learning and helping others were shaped long before these milestones, in classrooms and corridors at SXJ.

From a quiet Grade 5 student to someone striving to make meaningful contributions beyond himself, my journey has been shaped at every step by St. Xavier's Jawalakhel.

It gave me direction, community, and purpose. Most importantly, it taught me to measure success not by how far I go alone, but by how much I can give back along the way.

Looking back, I can say this with complete certainty: the time I spent at SXJ was the best chapter of my life.

Adhip Adhikari
Batch of 2020, SXJ

UNA PALOMA BLANCA

"To paint the plains, we must be at the mountains, and to paint the mountains, we must be at the plains". - Goethe



It is inherently impossible to acknowledge the true value of St. Xavier's School while still studying at the educational institute.

The value of this school, systemically, from an outsider's perspective is merely based on its pure educational capacity and its language proficiency.

Even as a student studying in this institute, we focus on the externalities, the grammar, the discipline.

However, as the quote penned by Goethe, the true value of this school, at its crucifix, is only felt by those who have long graduated from the school's systems.

To elaborate, the introverted child who feared speaking, who feared being seen, who feared the world, was now leading the school as the school captain in her final years.

I could never have dreamed of the change I would experience.

I entered as someone who hesitated to speak, preferred observation, and didn't know the sound of her own voice.

Yet along the way that changed. In my final years, I became what my younger self could only dream of, I became the school captain.

Even now, as an alumna, I find myself appreciating those years more than I did while living them.

SXJ was more than an academic institution; it taught me to approach walls not as limits, but rather obstacles, and to always break through them.

You see the world as you are, and SXJ builds the character of a person with such depth that we fail to realize our growth beyond it.

As an active member of the Alumni, I cherish the place where I spent my childhood, the lessons it taught, and the perspectives it showed.

The Experience of St. Xavier's School, in two words, is foundational guidance.

No other institute will build a child, readily capable to handle all of life's challenges as effectively as this. Students don't limit themselves to the canvas, they grow beyond it. Perhaps that is why it is difficult to recognize its full value while still within it.

You are too close to the painting to see the picture it is forming.

That quote by Goethe, to me, feels deeply personal because when I stepped foot outside the premises of our school and looked back, I realized that I had always been atop a mountain, even if I didn't comprehend it.

Rajeshmi Shrestha
Batch of 2022 , SXJ

THE BELL NEVER STOPS RINGING AND THE SONGS NEVER END

School is a second home, and its people are a part of the family. It all sounds like a nice dialogue in a movie, but after spending crucial years of one's life here, it becomes nothing but the truth.

Being a part of this family gave me more than just knowledge from books or putting pen to paper; it gave not only me but everyone the identity of a Xaverian, along with the values and beliefs of being a better individual—or, as we say, "people for others."



That statement always stuck with me because it is so simple, yet meaningful enough to capture the essence of what it means to be a Xaverian.

Every time I reminisce about my time in school, the very first thing I remember is the morning assembly, when everyone would recite the mission statement in unison and sing the school songs at the top of our lungs (or sing them wrong).

All of it seemed pointless while I stood there with my friends, but now it makes sense and serves as a reminder to everyone of where we come from and the values we must uphold.

To carry on with these values and to keep myself and others connected to the school, I joined the SXJ Alumni. In the beginning, when I had just joined, it seemed like just another event organizing team.

However, after working on multiple events, it became clear that it was much more than just conducting projects or hosting events.

It is about bringing our people together and working with everyone to keep our beliefs alive and to honor who we are.

The most lovely part about being active in the alumni is that the family aspect becomes real; everyone grows closer to one another, and every event starts feeling like a family gathering where everyone loves to sit together and catch up on each other's lives.

Even if just one person is missing, it starts to feel incomplete.

What I really love about our culture is that whether you are in a classroom or at a party somewhere, you are never really alone; there will always be a familiar face and someone close by. The school gave us a home and a family, and the alumni made sure we never left it.

Sulav Maharjan
Batch of 2022, SXJ

-FACULTY REFLECTIONS-

MEMORIES, MOMENTS, AND
MEANINGFUL JOURNEYS



More Than a Workplace : A Place I Call My Own

My journey with St. Xavier's School began in 2013, but somewhere along the way, it became much more than a place where I came to work. It became a part of who I am.

I often say, "I am not an employee of St. Xavier's; I am of St. Xavier's, and St. Xavier's is mine." For me, this is not just a statement; it is a feeling that has grown deeper with every passing year.

I am especially grateful to my students. Thank you for allowing me to live within you—in your memories, your learning, your laughter, and perhaps in some small lessons you may carry with you through life. If something I have said or done remains in your heart, then I feel my years here have truly been worthwhile.

I have also witnessed that this is a place where an educator's journey does not end when their voice falters.

Even when the greatest strength of a teacher, their voice, is lost, a place is found for them to contribute, to grow, and to remain valued.

After more than a decade, I realize that St. Xavier's has given me far more than a profession. It has given me a sense of belonging, purpose, cherished friendships, and countless reasons to be grateful.



May the St. Xavier's of tomorrow continue to offer future generations what it has given me: a place to belong, a reason to grow, and a community to call home.

Tilak Ram Poudel
Vice-Principal, SXJ

A Vocation of Service and Gratitude

My journey at St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, began in 2009 as an English teacher. After taking a brief hiatus in 2010 to pursue further education in Sweden, I returned to St. Xavier's in 2012. Since 2013, I have had the privilege of serving as the Vice-Principal of Activities, a role that has allowed me to contribute to and facilitate the vibrant co-curricular and extracurricular life of our school.



This vocation has blessed me with countless cherished memories of working with students and Captains and of collaborating with Vice-Principals, HODs, coordinators, Class Teachers, and colleagues from the Music, Dance, Scout, Art, and Games Departments, as well as Club Moderators. I feel particularly fulfilled whenever I see everyone striving for "*Magis*" in our academic, co-curricular, and extracurricular endeavours.

Although we have encountered challenges and hurdles along the way, the spirit of teamwork, creativity, mutual respect, and a shared sense of purpose has always made the journey meaningful and rewarding. I am deeply grateful for the countless opportunities for learning and growth afforded to me by our Reverend Fathers, Brothers, Sisters, colleagues, co-workers, students, parents and alumni. Each interaction and experience has taught me something valuable and has enriched both my professional journey and my understanding of what it means to serve in an educational institution.

Over the years, managing and coordinating activities for Classes 1 through 12—from Inter-House and Inter-School events to Joint Schools, Inter-Jesuit, and international programs have been a truly heartening experience.

None of this would have been possible without the unwavering support and encouragement of our dynamic leadership and the dedication of our teachers, staff, Student Captains, volunteers, collaborators, parents and alumni. Their commitment and enthusiasm have continually inspired me to give my best to the school.

As we celebrate the momentous seventy fifth Anniversary of St. Xavier's, I look back with immense gratitude and a deep sense of belonging. This journey has been far more than a professional commitment; it has been a vocation shaped by relationships, service, learning, and shared experiences. May we continue to internalize our shared Ignatian spirituality, strive for magis, and embrace the joy of teaching, learning, and serving together for many years to come.

Ramesh Maharjan
Vice-Principal, Activities, SXJ

Reflection on Teaching and Learning at St. Xavier's School

Teaching has been much more than a profession for me—it has been a journey of continuous learning, personal transformation, and countless opportunities for personal and professional growth. I joined St. Xavier's School, Godavari in the year 2010. My family and I have developed a close and meaningful relationship with the Jesuit institution and its members since its inception in 1951. My husband is an alumnus, both of our children studied here, and my late in-laws were dedicated staff members at this school.

Teaching as a career was never in my dreams. I like to call it my destiny that brought me to Nepal and connected my life with this school in so many roles: as a teacher, parent, facilitator, mentor, and leader. This entire teaching and learning experience over a period of sixteen years has shaped me into a person who is confident and deeply aware of the power of igniting young minds and being a catalyst for positive change.

Being a part of a Jesuit educational institution has changed my outlook in profound ways. It has helped me adapt to diverse situations and imbibe the values of cura personalis (care for the whole person), practicing a formed conscience, prioritizing competence over competition, and choosing compassion over compliance in both my personal and professional life.

Every experience inside and outside the classroom has given me the opportunity to learn, grow, and serve with a greater purpose. Professionally, this journey has inspired me to become a more reflective, dedicated, and innovative educator.



It has encouraged me to nurture not only academic excellence but also character formation, empathy, and a sense of social responsibility in my students. Personally, the Jesuit ethos has helped me develop patience, humility, resilience, and gratitude.

Over the years, I have come to realize that education is not merely about imparting knowledge; it is about forming individuals who are critical thinkers and problem solvers rather than people who merely dwell on difficulties. Holding leadership roles, participating in educational enrichment programs, learning innovative pedagogies, engaging with the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm (IPP), and participating in exchange programs have broadened my vision and strengthened my commitment to lifelong learning.

Anjali Gurung
Coordinator (Classes 5-8), SXG

A Journey of Values, Learning and Service

My journey at St. Xavier's School began on 1st June 2008 and since then, it has been a deeply meaningful journey of learning , growth and service. I consider myself fortunate to have studied in a missionary school, where I received an education that went beyond academics and taught me values such as discipline, compassion, respect, honesty ,responsibility and service.

The missionary school showed me the path and the Jesuit school taught me how to continue walking that path with humility, purpose and compassion.

The values of missionary school have shaped who I am today and I give much of the credit to the strong foundation working at St. Xavier's has given me countless opportunities to deepen these values through experience and practice.

Later, the opportunity to work at a Jesuit institution allowed me to understand and practise these values more deeply. St. Xavier's became my "Karmathalo", where teaching is not merely a profession but a meaningful responsibility and service to the society. Over the years, my students, colleagues, mentors and experiences have taught me valuable lessons and contributed greatly to my personal and professional growth. The Xavierian community stands apart through its strong traditions, discipline, compassion, sense of belonging and commitment forming not only capable individuals but also responsible human beings.



The memorable moments, challenges, achievements and relationships I have experienced since 2008 have shaped my career and enriched my life.

As I look towards the future, I hope Xavierians will carry these values wherever they go and use their knowledge to make a positive difference in society. My hope for future Xavierians is that they will value their education, remain humble and compassionate, uphold the Jesuit spirit, and use their knowledge to serve others. I remain deeply grateful for this journey and proud to be a part of St. Xavier's School.

Once A Xavierian; Always a Xavierian!

Archana Shah
Coordinator (Classes 1-5), SXJ

"समयले पखेटा पलायो" (Wings sprout in Time)

"समयले पखेटा पलायो" (Time has sprouted wings) is what I remember Mr. Ramnath Khanal, our Nepali literature teacher, saying when he waxed poetic. Fr Eugene L. Watrin, S.J, our English literature teacher, would follow up with a rejoinder: "and it waits for no man."

Now, as St. Xavier's celebrates its seventy fifth anniversary, I look back in bewilderment at the passage of time and reminisce about the day I first stepped into St. Xavier's School, it was celebrating its fourteenth Anniversary that year. Indeed, sixty-one years have flown by. Those swift wings of time have borne me forward to the present day, filled with fond memories of St. Xavier's so deeply etched into my persona that those yesteryears seem like mere yesterdays. I am sure those of you from those bygone days will wholeheartedly agree with me when I say that one outstanding attribute we graduated with was our strong command of English.

In fact, for many of us, it was better than our command of Nepali, our own mother tongue. Of course, credit goes to the Jesuit priests who were very strict but effective English teachers. However, I am sure you will also agree that our English foundation was firmly laid by a single, widely feared item: the Donkey Stick. It was just a rectangular block of wood, about an inch wide and a foot long, wrapped in paper. A pencil was attached to one end with a string. Its sole purpose was to jot down the hostel numbers of boys who were disinclined to follow the "Speak English" rule.

The rule was incredibly strict: everything had to be in English. You ate English, slept English, played English, thought English, and even translated Nepali thoughts into English. The only exception was during the Nepali class period, which was just one out of eight periods each school day.



If a boy was caught speaking Nepali at any other time or place —even if uttering a single word, his hostel number was written on the stick, and he had to carry it around until an opportune moment arrived in the form of another boy speaking Nepali. Then, he would promptly write the offender's number on the stick and hand it over with a huge sigh of relief.

Many numbers accumulated due to overzealous or hard-of-hearing boys. At the end of each week, the numbers were tallied; those whose numbers appeared five or more times had to miss the weekly movie or attend an hour of extra class while everyone else was out playing in the fields.

For the unlucky ones, sitting quietly in the classroom for an hour was bearable, but what was truly painful was hearing the laughter of those untethered spirits who either followed the rules or had escaped the punishment of the donkey stick by a single point.

Naturally, the unfortunate boys resolved even more strongly to speak English from then on. You can easily see why our English foundation was so strong, but here is some trivia on a few English words we used during our formative years in the junior section.

"Excuse": the way this word was used, you wouldn't find its meaning in Webster's, Oxford, or any other dictionary. It was used as a noun meaning "urine" or as a verb meaning" to urinate." Common uses of this word included: "He did excuse," or (if in class)" May I go for excuse, Sir?" The latter request was sometimes pleaded with legs tightly crossed and hands pressed to the crotch, as if holding back a stream about to burst its banks, delivered in a tone of urgency that usually prompted teachers to grant immediate permission. Sometimes a teacher refused, knowing some students used this excuse to escape class, especially if they hadn't done their homework. However, if a genuine request was denied, accidents occurred in the form of a burst dam.

Then there was the term "long-bath." It certainly didn't mean bathing for a long time, but I suppose you can guess what it referred to. A teacher almost always granted a request of, "May I go for a long-bath, Sir?" No educator wanted a "long-bath" accident occurring in the classroom. In this day and age, I presume these devious double entendres have become obsolete in the Xavierian lingo, but there is one word that has not only survived the passage of time but has also gained universal momentum: yaar. I still don't know its exact origin, but despite its primary meaning of "friend" it has officially entered the Oxford Dictionary. The word popped up in a Hindi film during the late 1960s, and it became a "macho" trend for us youngsters to use in our daily chit-chat. Since it was of Hindi origin, using it was not "donkey-stickable." The word remains popular today, and I still catch myself using it during friendly, informal conversations.

Well, time may give words new meanings or take away old ones, but in its inexorable march toward a future it cannot reach, one truth remains: it waits for no one. It did not wait for the many wonderful lay and religious teachers I had during my formative years, and it will not wait for us either. And so, while we are still able to observe and appreciate the world around us, let us take a moment to value everything and everyone.

As St. Xavier's celebrates its 75th Anniversary this year, I wish it many more to come. To the teachers, both religious and lay, may you find the strength and joy to educate and mold the next generation of leaders. And to the students: may you cultivate a deep love for your school and carry the name of St. Xavier's with pride as you live out the motto, "Live for God, Lead for Nepal"—a phrase beautifully penned by one of our school's earliest students.

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Mahendra Singh Limbu
SXG

A Journey of Teaching, Tradition and Time

I still vividly remember the day I first stepped into the school premises for my interview as a teacher in 2002. Sitting quietly in the school office, I was filled with a mix of anticipation and uncertainty. Soon, I was guided by Nanda Sir, who was then the Vice Principal, through a wide corridor leading to the old Rana Building. We entered a spacious room where the Principal, Heads of Departments, and several Fathers were seated. The atmosphere was formal, dignified, and quietly solemn.

I recall being interviewed by Father Millar, the then Acting Principal Hira Krishna Sir, Vice Principal Nanda Sir, George Sir, and other respected Heads of Departments. Questions were asked about my teaching subject, my academic background, and my understanding of education. At the time, I never imagined that this was the beginning of a journey that would span the next twenty-five years. I proudly consider myself a witness to change, a carrier of tradition, and a quiet builder of generations.

Since joining in 2002, I have watched the institution evolve in both visible and subtle ways. Buildings have risen, uniforms have changed, and leadership has transitioned through the years. I have had the opportunity to work under several Principals, each leaving a distinct imprint and contributing their core values to the institution's growth.

Throughout all these years, St. Xavier's has been able to carry forward its tradition and leave a lasting legacy in the community and among its people. It is the unwavering commitment to values, discipline, and service that has kept the institution standing tall through time.



It is not by chance, but through shared responsibility, that the institution has earned its respect. It is this balance between change and continuity that has shaped generations without losing its soul. While generations of students have changed, the spirit has remained the same. One can, therefore, rightfully say, "Once a Xaverian, always a Xaverian!"

In the course of my teaching journey, I have been a builder of generations, having had the privilege of working with many batches of students who passed through these corridors and went on to make their mark. Teaching has been my passion, and at St. Xavier's, that passion found its purpose. Through my years in the classroom, I not only shaped young minds—the experience shaped me as well, helping me grow into the person and educator I am today.

As a teacher and Alumni Coordinator, meeting my former students fills me with both pride and gratitude.

The respect and warmth with which they continue to interact with their teachers after graduation, along with the achievements they attain beyond the school, stand as powerful affirmations of our shared journey. Watching them grow into confident individuals and carry the values we taught them makes every year spent in the classroom worthwhile.

Teaching today is no longer what it used to be. The classroom has changed, and so have the students who fill it. In earlier times, students listened with quiet attention and trusted their teachers without question. What the teacher said carried weight. There was obedience, discipline, and a certain innocence in the way learning unfolded.

Today's students, however, are different. They are exposed to the wider world in ways previous generations never were. Information is at their fingertips. They are aware, curious, and often several steps ahead of the lesson plan. They question, they research, they compare, and sometimes they challenge. They do not simply accept—they investigate.

At times, this shift feels challenging. As teachers, we can no longer rely solely on textbooks or past notes carefully preserved over the years. We must remain updated, alert, and willing to learn alongside our students. The authority of a teacher today is not built only on position—it is built on competence, adaptability, and authenticity.

Yet, if we look closely, this change is not entirely a burden. It is also an opportunity. When students explore beyond the textbook, it pushes us to refine our knowledge and rethink our methods. It keeps us intellectually alive. The classroom becomes less about delivering information and more about guiding exploration.

The role of a teacher has evolved —from being the sole source of knowledge to being a mentor, facilitator, and sometimes even a co-learner. The challenge is real, but so is the privilege. To teach young minds that are informed, inquisitive, and globally aware demands effort—but it also keeps us relevant.

Perhaps the question is not whether teaching has become harder. It definitely has. Nevertheless, the real question is whether we are willing to grow with the generation we teach.
As St. Xavier's marks its seventy fifth anniversary this year, I am filled with a profound sense of pride in having served here for so many years. This milestone offers an opportunity not only to celebrate our achievements, but also to reflect on the journey we have undertaken, the values we continue to uphold, and the responsibilities we carry as members of the St. Xavier's family.

As we look ahead, may St. Xavier's continue to inspire and guide future generations with the same commitment, dedication, and moral strength that have marked its journey thus far. May we remain rooted in our rich heritage while embracing the opportunities and challenges of the future with courage and wisdom.

Ms. Junashree KC
Coordinator/Teacher
SXJ Alumni Association

My Pilgrim's Diary: A Journey of Grace and Gratitude

"It is not hard to obey when we love the one whom we obey."— *St. Ignatius of Loyola*



We grew up in Machchhegaun, Kathmandu, in a lower-middle-class family. Our grandfather, a traditional healer, instilled in us a sense of compassion, while our parents, despite modest means, ensured that all three of us received a proper education and the best possible opportunities.

A defining moment in my life came in 2003, when I joined St. Xavier's School, Godavari, as a computer teacher. There, I discovered not just a workplace, but a second family. Teaching students brought me joy, purpose, and a deeper appreciation of education—not merely as a job, but as a true mission.

What inspired me most was the Jesuit ethos that guides the school: caring for the whole person, showing compassion, and nurturing individuals committed to justice and service. Being part of such a community—surrounded by Jesuit fathers, brothers, colleagues, and students—helped me grow professionally, personally, and spiritually. Their humility, openness, and dedication left a lasting mark, and their support carried me through my most challenging moments. The ongoing workshops and training programs continue to help us grow every day. Another transformative chapter was having the opportunity to serve as a member of the Shared Vision Team, which allowed me to visit and engage with Jesuit institutions across the Nepal Region and Darjeeling Province.

These experiences broadened my perspective, showing me that Jesuit education is not only about academic excellence, but also about fostering faith, reflection, and a commitment to becoming men and women for and with others.

Each encounter reinforced my belief that value-guided, compassionate education can truly change lives.

Looking back, I feel immense gratitude for my parents, family, colleagues, students, and the Jesuit community. They have been a constant presence in my life and a source of inspiration for continuous learning. As Nepal celebrates seventy five years of Jesuit presence, I feel honored to have played even a small part in this journey. The Jesuit mission has nurtured minds and touched hearts, inspiring people like me to live a life of service, gratitude, and hope.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for welcoming me into this noble mission.

Subarna Raj KC
Vice Principal (Admin/Activities)
SXG

A Journey of Becoming a Xavierian

When I look back on my journey as a teacher, I realize that my years at St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, have been much more than a career. They have been a journey of becoming. After gaining several years of teaching experience in Dehradun, I came to Nepal after marriage and joined St. Xavier's Jawalakhel. In that very year, the school celebrated its Golden Jubilee. It was also a historic year, as the school opened its doors to girls and began its journey as a co-educational institution. I was fortunate to witness this transformation from within.



I still smile when I remember those early days. The boys, accustomed to an all-boys environment, were wonderfully simple and innocent in their interactions with girls. The then Principal, Father Lawrence, once shared a story that captured this beautifully. After the boys returned from their SLC examination, one boy confessed, "Father, I was perspiring when I saw a girl sitting next to me. I almost forgot everything I had prepared for the examination!" Such moments perhaps reflected a school standing at the threshold of a new chapter.

The annual school plays provided some of my fondest memories. Since we did not yet have high school girls in the school, girls from St. Mary's would come for auditions, much to the excitement of the senior boys. I had the privilege of assisting the late Father Casper Miller with direction and costumes. My Fair Lady, The King and I, and Fiddler on the Roof remain especially close to my heart. I remember our long rehearsal sessions after school, when Father would sometimes arrive with a bag of popcorn or a box of cookies. Those simple moments of laughter, creativity and hard work became treasured memories.

Before girls became part of the school, our boys themselves were wonderfully willing performers. They became girls, butterflies, flowers and even Snow White and her wicked step mother with complete enthusiasm. There was no hesitation only imagination and the joy of becoming someone else for a few moments. Looking back, those were not merely school productions; they were lessons in confidence, creativity, cooperation and the freedom to be oneself.

I remember my boys with particular fondness. A "Good morning, Mam" was often accompanied by a respectful Namaste. Their humility and reverence for teachers had a quiet beauty of its own.

Today, former students may greet me with a warm hug, while an older Xavierian may still fold his hands and say Namaste. Both gestures speak of affection, but in very different languages.

Having taught for more than two decades, I have journeyed with Millennials and now with Gen-Z and Gen Alpha. In many ways, I remain young because every day I am surrounded by young minds, new questions and new possibilities.

I have never believed that teachers are the only educators in a classroom. With humility, I acknowledge that my students have been some of my finest teachers. From them, I have learned to question what I thought I already knew, to adapt to changing times, to listen before judging, and to look at the world through fresh and often unexpected eyes. They have taught me patience, resilience, openness to technology, and the courage to accept that there is always another way of learning.

Most importantly, they have reminded me that every child carries a story, a struggle, a dream and a unique way of seeing the world. Over the years, I may have taught them lessons of physics, but they have taught me lessons about life.

I arrived here with my own understanding of discipline and teaching. St. Xavier's, however, gradually taught me that education is not only about forming the mind; it is about accompanying the person. The Xavierian spirit taught me to balance discipline with understanding, knowledge with values, and teaching with reflection. More importantly, it taught me that a teacher, too, must remain a learner.

For more than two decades, I have watched St. Xavier's change, and in many ways, it has watched me change too. I came here as a teacher; I have remained here as a learner. As the school celebrates seventy years, I feel privileged to have been a small part of its long and continuing story, and grateful that, in shaping young lives, St. Xavier's has quietly shaped mine.

Mrs. Aleena Mukhia Sunuwar
Coordinator (Classes 6-10) , SXJ

एक आँगन, अनगिन्ती जीवन : सेन्ट जेभियर्सको मेरो अनुभूति



जब मैले सेन्ट जेभियर्स विद्यालयमा आफ्नो कर्मयात्राको पहिलो पाइला टेकेँ, म जीवनको पूर्वार्धमा भर्खरै प्रवेश गरेको एक अपरिपक्व तर सपनाले भरिएको युवा थिएँ। त्यो समय मेरो हृदयमा अनगिन्ती आकांक्षाहरू थिए, आँखामा अनिश्चित भविष्यको धमिलो चित्र थियो र काँधमा परिवारप्रतिको जिम्मेवारीको अदृश्य तर गह्रौं भार थियो।

टाढाको ग्रामीण परिवेशबाट राजधानीतर्फको त्यो यात्रा केवल भौगोलिक दूरी पार गर्ने यात्रा थिएन; त्यो त जीवनको एउटा नयाँ अध्याय सुरु गर्ने साहसिक प्रयास थियो। खल्तीमा दुई सय रुपिया मात्र थियो, तर मनभित्र असीमित सम्भावनाहरू, असंख्य सपना र भविष्यप्रतिको अटल विश्वास थियो।

त्यो प्रारम्भिक दिनहरू सजिला थिएनन्। अपरिचित वातावरण, नयाँ अनुशासन, नयाँ जिम्मेवारी र जीवनको अनिश्चितताले मनमा अनेकौँ प्रश्नहरू उठाउँथे। तर समयसँगै म बिस्तारै त्यस परिवेशसँग घुलमिल हुन थालेँ। हरेक दिनले मलाई केही नयाँ सिकाइ दियो—कहिले गल्तीबाट, कहिले अनुभवबाट र कहिले मौनताबाट। मैले बुझ्न थालेँ कि यो त केवल काम गर्ने ठाउँ होइन; यो त जीवनलाई बुझ्ने, आफूलाई परिष्कृत गर्ने र मानवता सिक्ने एउटा जीवित पाठशाला रहेछ।

म भाग्यमानी थिएँ कि मेरो वरिपरि अनुभवी सहकर्मीहरू, र वरिष्ठहरू मार्गदर्शक थिए। श्रद्धेय व्यक्तिहरूको सान्निध्य प्राप्त भयो। उनीहरू केवल सहकर्मी वा नेतृत्वकर्ता थिएनन्; उनीहरू ज्ञान, अनुशासन र सेवाभावका जीवित उदाहरण थिए। उनीहरूको व्यवहारबाट मैले सिकेँ—विनम्रता नै वास्तविक शक्ति हो, निरन्तरता नै सफलता हो र सेवाभाव नै जीवनको उच्चतम अर्थ हो।

बिस्तारै मैले संस्थाको लय बुझ्न थालेँ, यसको संस्कृति अनुभव गर्न थालेँ र आफूलाई पनि यस विशाल परिवारको एउटा अभिन्न हिस्सा बनाउन थालेँ।

समयको प्रवाहसँगै मलाई विभिन्न विभागहरूमा काम गर्ने अवसर प्राप्त भयो। ती परिवर्तनहरू मेरा लागि चुनौती मात्र थिएनन्; ती सम्भावनाका नयाँ ढोका थिए। प्रत्येक विभागले मलाई नयाँ दृष्टिकोण, नयाँ अनुभव र आफूलाई अझ सक्षम बनाउने अवसर दियो।

मैले प्रत्येक जिम्मेवारीलाई केवल कर्तव्यका रूपमा होइन, संस्थाले ममाथि राखेको विश्वासका रूपमा लिएँ। त्यो विश्वासलाई जोगाउनु मेरा लागि सम्मानको कुरा थियो, र त्यसैअनुसार मैले आफ्नो सम्पूर्ण ऊर्जा, समय र समर्पण अर्पण गरेँ।

वर्षहरू बित्दै गए र मेरो जीवन पनि यही संस्थासँग गहिरो रूपमा गाँसिँदै गयो। केही समयपछि मेरो भाइ पनि यही संस्थामा आबद्ध भएर लामो समयसम्म सेवा गरे। त्यो केवल पारिवारिक संयोग थिएन; त्यो हाम्रो जीवनलाई एउटै कर्मभूमिमा बाँध्ने एउटा सुन्दर अध्याय थियो।

हामी दुवै दाजुभाइ फरक-फरक भूमिकामा भए पनि एउटै संस्थाको सेवा गर्यौँ, एउटै मूल्य र संस्कारसँग आफूलाई जोड्यौँ।

समयले अझ अनौठो मोड लियो, जब मेरा आफ्नै सन्तानहरू पनि यही संस्थाको शैक्षिक यात्रामा प्रवेश गरे। उनीहरूले यही आँगनमा आफ्नो प्रारम्भिक शिक्षा प्राप्त गरे, यही वातावरणमा उनीहरूको सोच, चरित्र र भविष्यका आधारहरू निर्माण भए। एक अभिभावकका रूपमा आफ्ना सन्तानहरूलाई आफूले जीवन समर्पण गरेको संस्थामै हुर्किँदै गरेको देख्नु मेरा लागि गर्वभन्दा पनि गहिरो आत्मिक सन्तोषको अनुभूति थियो।

आज उनीहरू उच्च शिक्षाका लागि संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिकामा छन्, आफ्नो भविष्य निर्माण गरिरहेका छन्। मेरो भाइ पनि अहिले अमेरिकामै आफ्नो जीवनको नयाँ अध्याय बाँचिरहेका छन्। जीवनले हामीलाई फरक–फरक दिशामा पुर्‍याए पनि हाम्रो जरा भने यही संस्थासँग अझै मजबुत रूपमा गाँसिएको छ।

यी सबै वर्षहरूमा मैले असंख्य परिवर्तनहरू देखें। मैले संस्थाको रूपान्तरण देखें, प्रविधिको विकास देखें, संरचनाको परिवर्तन देखें; तर एउटा कुरा कहिल्यै परिवर्तन भएन— संस्थाको आत्मा। त्यो आत्मा भनेको सेवा, शिक्षा, अनुशासन र मानवताको मूल्य हो।यी तेत्तीस वर्षमा मैले यहाँ असंख्य कोपिलाहरू देखें। अबोध मुस्कान र निर्दोष आँखाहरू लिएर भित्रिएका साना बालबालिकाहरूलाई मैले क्रमशः फक्रिँदै, परिपक्व हुँदै र आत्मविश्वासी व्यक्तित्वमा रूपान्तरण हुँदै गरेको देखेको छु।

ती कोपिलाहरू समयसँगै फूल बने र ती फूलहरूले संसारका विभिन्न कुनाहरूमा आफ्नो सुगन्ध फैलाए। आज तीमध्ये कोही चिकित्सक छन्, कोही वैज्ञानिक, कोही शिक्षक, कोही अनुसन्धानकर्ता, कोही उद्यमी र कोही समाजका विविध क्षेत्रमा योगदान पुर्‍याइरहेका सफल व्यक्तित्वहरू छन्।

जब उनीहरूको उपलब्धि देख्छु वा सुन्छु, मन अनायासै गर्व र कृतज्ञताले भरिन्छ। किनकि ती केवल व्यक्तिगत सफलताहरू होइनन्; ती सामूहिक प्रयास, संस्कार र शिक्षाका प्रतिफल हुन्। ती सुगन्धित फूलहरू केवल व्यक्तित्व होइनन्; ती यस संस्थाका मूल्य र दर्शनका जीवित प्रमाण हुन्।

आज पछाडि फर्केर हेर्दा यी तेत्तीस वर्षहरू केवल समयको गणना मात्र होइनन्। यी त एउटा जीवनको सम्पूर्ण कथा हुन्, जहाँ म केवल एउटा कर्मचारी होइन, एउटा साक्षी, एउटा सहभागी र एउटा कृतज्ञ आत्मा बनेर बाँचिरहेको छु। यहाँ मैले केवल काम गरें भन्ने होइन; मैले जीवन पाएँ, अर्थ पाएँ र एउटा गहिरो आत्मिक सम्बन्ध पाएँ।

आज पनि म यहीँ छु—त्यही आँगनमा, त्यही अनुशासनमा, त्यही आत्मीयतामा। विद्यार्थीहरूको हाँसो, सहकर्मीहरूको साथ र संस्थाको आत्माले भरिएको वातावरणबीच म अझै पनि प्रत्येक दिन नयाँ अर्थ खोजिरहेको छु। र सायद यही नै मेरो जीवनको सबैभन्दा ठूलो सौभाग्य हो।

राजेन्द्र आचार्य
सेन्ट जेभियर्स स्कुल, जावलाखेल

Memorable Experience

My most memorable experience was the gracious visit of Their Majesties King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev and Queen Aishwarya Rajya Laxmi Devi Shah on the occasion of the school's thirty fifth Anniversary.



His Majesty's gracious words to us after the program, "तपाईंहरूको कार्यक्रम राम्रो लाग्यो, धन्यवाद!", still echo in my mind and heart.

My time teaching and learning at SXG was not only challenging, but it was also a deeply rewarding and joyful opportunity.

Discipline, honesty, hard work, and respect for others were the core values that defined the Xaverian community. Practices such as the "Donkey Stick," "Point-cut," and keeping the school compound clean were instituted to support and strengthen these values within our community.

"Life is the most difficult exam. Many people fail because they try to copy others, not realizing that everyone has a different question paper."

Congratulations and best wishes to all members of St. Xavier's School, Godavari, and the wider community on its seventy fifth Anniversary.

Augustine Thapa (Thapa Sir)
SXG

75 Years of Shaping Minds, Hearts, and Community

St. Xavier's School, Godavari is celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary. It has long embodied Jesuit values of service, creativity, discipline, and holistic education. Mr. Panchaman Lama, or Lama Sir, who served from 1968–1997 as teacher, caregiver, mentor, and community pillar. Respected for his calm presence, compassion, and integrity, he influenced students both inside and outside the classroom.



As class teacher of grade four, he believed in nurturing potential, famously appointing struggling student as class captain, helping him grow into confidence. His classroom fostered creativity through poetry, storytelling, and arts like clay modelling and papier- mâché. He upheld drama tradition with plays such as The Golden Goose and Bir Bal Bhadra, which became community highlights and contributed to the school's cultural heritage. He trained as Nepal's first surgical nurse, he managed the infirmary with professionalism and care. On the sports field, he was an active handball and football player, strengthening bonds between teachers and students

His participation in chapel services and his friendship with Fr Casper Miller reflected Xavier's deep sense of faith and community. His family's longstanding ties to the school and his continued presence on campus symbolize how his values continue to shape generations.

Mr. Panchaman Lama
Teacher, SXG

अनुग्रह र समर्पणको यात्रा: सेन्ट जेभियर्समा मेरा बिताएका दिनहरू



यस स्कुल का सम्पूर्ण फादर, शिक्षक तथा विद्यार्थीहरूमा मेरो विनम्र हार्दिक प्रणाम् (नमन) व्यक्त गर्दछु। यस स्कुल का विषयमा मेरो सानो अनुभव र मैले प्राप्त गरेको ज्ञान, शिक्षा एवं काम गर्न सिकाउनुहुने फादरहरूको नाम लिन चाहन्छु। म स्कुल मा प्रवेश गरेको २०२३ साल कात्तिकतिर होला। त्यतिबेला कक्षा ७ देखि कक्षा ११ सम्म पढाइ हुने गर्दथ्यो। प्रिन्सिपल फादर जोन्क्स र मिनिस्टर फादर केसर हुनुहुन्थ्यो। साइन्स पढाउने फादर सार्फ, फादर चार्ली, हिसाब पढाउने फादर कस्से र अरू धेरै फादरहरू पनि हुनुहुन्थ्यो।

अनि २०२५ सालमा स्कुल साटियो; गोदावरीमा कक्षा १ देखि ६ सम्म र जावलाखेलमा कक्षा ७ देखि ११ सम्म कक्षा सुरु भयो। गोदावरीमा सन् १९६८ मा अंग्रेजी माध्यममा अध्यापन सुरु हुँदा रेक्टर फादर मोरयान, प्रिन्सिपल फादर मिलर र मिनिस्टर फादर डाउनिङ आउनुभएपछि मैले फादर मिलरसँग काम गर्ने मौका पाएँ। मैले स्कुल पढेको थिएन, तर फादर मिलरले म लगायत अरू साना कर्मचारीहरूलाई पनि पढ्ने मौका दिनुभयो। हामीलाई पढाउने सर रविन्द्र खनाल हुनुहुन्थ्यो। यसरी नै फादर मिलरसँग ९ वर्ष काम गरेँ। त्यसपछि फादर कोयन प्रिन्सिपल हुनुभयो; उहाँसँग ५ वर्ष काम गरेँ।

त्यतिबेलासम्म मेरो आफ्नो घर-जग्गा थिएन, अरूको जग्गामा बस्ने गर्दथेँ। मेरो दुख देखेर ऋण स्वरूप मलाई जग्गा किनिदिनुभयो। यसका लागि फादरलाई मुरी-मुरी धन्यवाद तथा आभार प्रकट गर्दछु।

पञ्चायतकालको समयमा मेरा प्यारा विद्यार्थीहरूलाई सामाजिक कार्यमा संलग्न गराउन र सिकाउन गाउँ-गाउँमा लैजाने गर्दथेँ। मेरो आफ्नो सानो छाप्रो बनाउँदा पनि ईंटा बोक्न, गहुँ काट्न, मल छर्न र तोरी उखेल्न गाउँ-गाउँमा मसँगै जाने गर्दथे। स्कुल का फादर, विद्यार्थी र सम्पूर्ण अभिभावकहरूको दया, माया र सहयोगले आजसम्म मेरो जीविका चलिरहेको छ।

मेरो छोरा बिरामी हुँदा जि.ए.ए. (GAA) का सचेन्द्र सर घरमै आई सहयोग गर्नुभयो। भुइँचालोको समयमा जावलाखेलबाट फादरबाट जस्तापाता पाएको थिएँ। साथै म बिरामी हुँदा उपचार गरिदिने अभिभावकहरू र विद्यार्थीहरूको नाम लिन चाहन्छु। मलाई टि.बी. हुँदा डा. नरबहादुर मास्के, टाइफाइड हुँदा डा. ईश्वरलाल आचार्य, रेवा श्रेष्ठ, सञ्जय श्रेष्ठ, जितेन्द्र परियार, कुलेश थापा तथा अन्य धेरै हुनुहुन्छ। नाम सम्झन नसकेकोमा क्षमा गर्नुहोला।

जब स्कुल मा १९९६ सालदेखि को-एजुकेशन (सह-शिक्षा) सुरु भयो, तब स्थानीय बालबालिकाहरूले पनि पढ्ने अवसर पाए। तपाईंहरूजस्तै भाग्यमानी बालबालिका सायद विरलै होलान्; किनभने तपाईंहरूकै पालामा आफ्नै स्कुल मा कम्प्युटर पढ्ने मौका पाउनुभएको हो। नेपालमा पहिलो पटक कम्प्युटर आउनुभन्दा ३ वर्षअघि नै फादर मोरयानले हाम्रो स्कुल मा कम्प्युटर कक्षा सुरु गरिसक्नुभएको थियो। गाउँका अन्य स्थानीय विद्यार्थीहरू पनि स्कुल मा कम्प्युटर सिक्न आउने गर्दथे।

हाल पढ्दै गरेका बाबुनानीहरूलाई विनम्र अनुरोध गर्न चाहन्छु— ठूलाहरू फोहोरी राजनीतिमा नलाग्नुहोला। साना बाबुनानीहरू आफ्नो गृहकार्य छाडेर मोबाइलमा समय खेर नफाल्नुहोला। आफ्नो सीप यही माटोलाई उर्वर बनाउनका लागि सधैँ तत्पर राख्नुहोला।

झमक बस्न्यात
सेन्ट जेभियर्स स्कुल, गोदावरी

सेन्ट जेभियर्स गोदावरीमा मेरा अठ्ठाइस वर्ष

सेन्ट जेभियर्स गोदावरीको नेपाली विभागमा बिताएका अठ्ठाइस वर्ष फर्केर हेर्दा, यो विद्यालय मेरो लागि केवल कार्यस्थल मात्र नभई मेरो जीवनकै एउटा अभिन्न अङ्ग बनेको अनुभूति हुन्छ। मेरो जन्म सुन्दर पहाडी जिल्ला गुल्मीमा, पिता नेत्रप्रसाद पन्थ, जो अहिले एक सय वर्षको हुनुहुन्छ, र माता तुलसा कँडेल पन्थको सन्तानका रूपमा भएको हो। हरियाली पहाड, कफी र उखुबारी, सुन्तला र अङ्गुरलगायतका फलफूलका बोटबिरुवा तथा प्राकृतिक परिवेशमा मेरो बाल्यकाल बित्यो। हाम्रो परिवार र समाजमा शिक्षालाई विशेष महत्त्व दिइन्थ्यो। त्यही परिवेशले मलाई परिश्रम, सरलता, सम्मान र प्रकृतिप्रतिको प्रेम सिकायो।

विद्यार्थी जीवनमा म पढाइमा अब्बल हुनुका साथै अतिरिक्त क्रियाकलापमा पनि उत्तिकै सक्रिय थिएँ। लगातार तीन वर्षसम्म वीरेन्द्र शिल्ड जित्ने टोलीको सदस्य हुन पाउनु मेरो विद्यार्थी जीवनको गौरवपूर्ण सम्झना हो। त्यही समयमा मैले अत्यन्त प्रेरणादायी शिक्षक पाएकी थिएँ, जसले मेरो क्षमता पहिचान गरी मलाई निरन्तर हौसला र मार्गदर्शन दिनुभयो।

गुरुहरूको प्रेरणा ,बुबाआमा तथा परिवारको निरन्तर साथ तथा प्रोत्साहनले आज म जे छु र जस्तो शिक्षिका बनेकी छु, त्यसको आधार निर्माण गर्‌यो। त्यही अनुभवबाट मैले सिकेँ सही समयमा दिइएको सानो प्रोत्साहनले पनि बालबालिकाको जीवनको दिशा बदल्न सक्छ। त्यसैले शिक्षिकाका रूपमा मेरो उद्देश्य सधैँ प्रत्येक विद्यार्थीलाई, विशेष गरी शैक्षिक स्तर कमजोर वा आत्मविश्वास कम भएका विद्यार्थीलाई, माया, साथ र प्रोत्साहन दिएर उनीहरूको क्षमता पहिचान गर्न सहयोग गर्नु रहेको छ।

मेरो गोदावरी यात्रा मेरा श्रीमान् नारायणप्रसाद भण्डारी, जो कीटविज्ञको(Entomologist)पदमा गोदावरीस्थित वनस्पति उद्यानभित्र मौरी विकास तथा तालीम केन्द्रमा सरुवा भएपछि सुरु भयो। हामीले केही वर्ष वनस्पति उद्यानभित्रै बस्ने सुन्दर अवसर पायौँ। यहाँको हरियाली, शान्त वातावरण र पुराना विशाल लता वृक्षले मलाई बाल्यकालको गुल्मी सम्झाइरहन्थे।



गोदावरी आएपछि मैले आफ्नो अध्ययनलाई पनि निरन्तरता दिँदै त्रिभूवन विश्वविद्यालयबाट नेपाली विषयमा शिक्षा शास्त्र सङकायको स्नातकोत्तर अध्ययन सुरु गरेँ। हामी बुटवलबाट छोराछोरीलाई उत्कृष्ट शिक्षा दिने उद्देश्यले काठमाण्डौ आएका थियौँ।

छोरी सेन्ट जेभियर्समा अध्ययन गर्न थालेपछि विद्यालयसँग मेरो सम्बन्ध पनि विस्तार हुँदै गयो र अन्ततः म नेपाली विभागमा आबद्ध भएँ। त्यसरी सुरु भएको यात्रा आज अठ्ठाइस वसन्त पार गरिसकेको छ।

मेरो जीवनमा एक समय सरकारी माध्यमिक विद्यालयमा शिक्षकका रूपमा नियुक्ति पाउने अवसर पनि आएको थियो। तर मैले त्यो पद छोडेर सेन्ट जेभियर्समै आफ्नो शिक्षण यात्रालाई निरन्तरता दिने निर्णय गरेँ। विद्यालयको व्यवस्थित प्रणाली, अनुशासन, शैक्षिक वातावरण तथा विशेष गरी फादर र सिस्टरहरूको सरलता र समर्पणले मलाई गहिरो प्रभाव पारेको थियो। यहाँ शिक्षा पाठ्यपुस्तक र परीक्षामा मात्र सीमित नभई अनुशासन, चरित्र निर्माण, सेवा र अतिरिक्त क्रियाकलापसँग जोडिएको पाएँ। यही समग्र शिक्षाले विद्यार्थीलाई आत्मविश्वासी, विनम्र, अनुशासित र जिम्मेवार नागरिक बन्न सहयोग गर्छ भन्ने मेरो विश्वास छ।

यस शिक्षाको प्रभाव मैले आफ्नै सन्तानको जीवनमा पनि अनुभव गरेकी छु। मेरी छोरी राष्ट्रियता भण्डारी, सेन्ट जेभियर्स गोदावरीकै उत्पादन, हाल संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिकामा चिकित्सकका रूपमा कार्यरत छिन् भने छोरा राष्ट्रराज भण्डारी एसिया क्षेत्रमा कार्बन विज्ञका रूपमा कार्यरत छन्।

उनीहरूले आफ्नो जरा र संस्कारसँग जोडिँदै अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय परिवेशमा आफूलाई स्थापित गर्न र योगदान दिन सकेकोमा म गर्व गर्छु। उनीहरूको यात्राले मलाई अझ दृढ विश्वास दिलाएको छ कि राम्रो विद्यालयको शिक्षाले बालबालिकालाई आफ्नो मौलिकता जोगाउँदै विश्वको जुनसुकै परिवेशमा आत्मविश्वासका साथ अघि बढ्न सक्षम बनाउँछ।

आज मेरा धेरै पूर्वविद्यार्थी संसारका विभिन्न देशमा अध्ययन र काम गरिरहेका छन्। वर्षौंपछि कतै अचानक उनीहरूलाई भेट्दा र उनीहरूले देखाउने माया, सम्मान र कृतज्ञता अनुभव गर्दा शिक्षिका हुनुको वास्तविक आनन्द महसुस हुन्छ। विद्यालयको आदर्श वाक्य "Live for God, Lead for Nepal" "ईश्वरका लागि बाँचौं, नेपालका लागि नेतृत्व गरौं" मेरो मनमा सधैं विशेष स्थानमा रहेको छ। विद्यार्थी संसारको जुनसुकै कुनामा पुगे पनि आफ्नो जरा नबिर्सून् र आफ्नो ज्ञान, अनुभव तथा नेतृत्व क्षमताबाट नेपाललाई योगदान दिऊन् भन्ने मलाई सधै लागिरहन्छ।

विद्यालयबाहिरको मेरो यात्रामा पनि २२ वर्षसम्म स्काउटिङ तथा National Assistant Trainer को रूपमा संलग्न छु । सेन्ट जेभियर्सका गर्ल स्काउटहरूलाई अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय जाम्बोरीहरूमा नेतृत्व गर्दै विभिन्न देशमा लैजाने अवसर मेरा लागि विशेष गौरव र सिकाइको अनुभव रह्यो। अभिभावकहरूलाई पनि मेरो एउटा अनुरोध छ—सेन्ट जेभियर्सले स्थानीय समुदायलाई दिएको शैक्षिक अवसरको महत्त्व बुझौं र यसको संरक्षण गरौं।

भर्नाका समयमा देखाइने उत्साहलाई बालबालिकाको सम्पूर्ण विद्यालय जीवनभर उनीहरूको शिक्षा, संस्कार र सर्वाङ्गीण विकासमा उत्तिकै सक्रिय सहभागिताका साथ निरन्तरता दिऔं।

अठ्ठाइस वर्षपछि आज विद्यालय परिसरमा हिँड्दा कहिलेकाहीं मलाई लाग्छ—यहाँका पुराना रूखहरू, हरिया चौर, घाँस र परिचित भवनहरूले समेत मलाई चिन्छन्।

यिनैले कैयौं पुस्ताका विद्यार्थीहरूलाई हुर्काँदै गरेको देखेका छन् र मौन रूपमा मेरो यात्रालाई पनि नियालेका छन्।

बाल्यकालको गुल्मी सम्झाउने गोदावरीको यही प्राकृतिक सौन्दर्य अन्ततः मेरो जीवनका झन्डै तीन दशकको कर्मभूमि बन्यो। सेन्ट जेभियर्स गोदावरी अब मैले पढाउने विद्यालय मात्र होइन, मेरो जीवनकथाकै एउटा सुन्दर अध्याय हो।

मेरा आमाबुबा, श्रीमान् र परिवार, प्रेरणादायी गुरु, फादर तथा सिस्टरहरू, सहकर्मी, अभिभावक र सबैभन्दा बढी मेरो शिक्षण यात्रालाई अर्थपूर्ण र आनन्दमय बनाउने अनेकौं पुस्ताका विद्यार्थीहरूप्रति म हृदयदेखि नै कृतज्ञ छु।

राधिका अधिकारी
सेन्ट जेभियर्स स्कुल, गोदावरी

My Journey at St. Xavier's School, Godavari

I joined St. Xavier's School, Godavari, in 2002. Since then, I have been truly blessed with countless memorable experiences that have shaped both my personal and professional life.

It has been a great honor and privilege to be part of this wonderful institution, where learning goes hand in hand with values, faith, and compassion.

Over the years, I have witnessed generations of young students grow into confident, responsible individuals, guided by the Xaverian spirit of excellence and service.

The camaraderie among colleagues, the enthusiasm of the students, and the inspiring atmosphere of the school have made my journey here deeply meaningful and fulfilling.

As we celebrate the seventy fifth Anniversary of St. Xavier's School, Godavari, I feel immensely proud to be part of its rich history and lasting legacy. This milestone serves as a powerful reminder of the dedication, hard work, and faith that have built this great institution over the decades.

St. Xavier's is not merely a school—it is a family that nurtures both the heart and the mind.



To today's students and teachers, I encourage you to cherish these values and continue to keep the Xaverian spirit shining brightly in everything you do.

Subash Mukhia
SXG

-LEADERS' VOICES-

WISDOM, VISION & MEMORIES



A Legacy We Inherit, A Story We Continue

Looking back, one thought always stays with me: I only wish I had become a Xavierian much earlier. Yet, in just two years, St. Xavier's has given me memories and values that will remain with me for a lifetime. This institution has not only prepared me academically but has also shaped the way I see the world. What makes St. Xavier's truly extraordinary is not merely its legacy of seventy five years, but the people who continue to uphold it with excellence and compassion every day. Here, I learned that discipline is not something to be followed out of fear but embraced because we understand its purpose. That understanding is one of the greatest gifts Jesuit education has given me.

Among the countless memories I will carry forward, organizing the Mini Marathon through our Business Club and staying after school for dance and play rehearsals will always hold a special place in my heart. The countless moments shared with incredible people, along with the guidance, care, support, and trust of our teachers, made these experiences truly unforgettable. They reminded me that the greatest achievements are never accomplished alone.

Serving as school captain has been the fulfilment of a dream I carried from the day I joined St. Xavier's. This journey taught me that leadership is not about authority but about responsibility. A leader should be approachable, trustworthy, transparent, and willing to grow alongside others. There were moments that felt overwhelming, but every challenge strengthened my resilience and deepened my belief in Magis; the Jesuit spirit of always striving to become better. I am still learning, and I hope I continue learning throughout my life. Being entrusted with the responsibility of serving as School Captain during St. Xavier's seventy-fifth anniversary is an honour I will forever cherish.



My heartfelt gratitude goes to every teacher who has taught, inspired, supported, and believed in me. Their patience and unwavering dedication are the foundation of everything that makes this institution so special.

To every future Xavierian, I leave you with one simple thought: stay calm. Life moves much like a pendulum; neither happiness nor hardship lasts forever. Difficult seasons make us stronger and teach us to appreciate the joyful ones, while moments of success remind us to stay humble.

One day, you will realize that St. Xavier's did far more than educate you, it quietly shaped the person you became. Carry its values with pride wherever life takes you, and you will forever remain a Xavierian.

Aastha Mishra
School Captain
Class 12 (2026), SXJ

A Footnote in 75 Years, A Story for a Lifetime

People often ask what it is like to join St. Xavier's Jawalakhel in Grade 11, but for me, it felt deeply nostalgic. Having been a Xaverian since Grade 2 at St. Xavier's School, Godavari, coming to SXJ felt almost like coming home. The very first thing that caught my attention on Day 1 was the historic red brick bearing the 'श्री ३' symbol. Looking at it, I realized that I was now part of a seventy five-year legacy. I couldn't help but think about the generations of students who had sat in the very seats we occupy today, knowing that one day, someone else will take our place.

But what surprised me the most was the environment. Expecting strict, memorization-based teaching, I instead found caring teachers who prioritized deep understanding over passive learning. Surrounding myself with hardworking and talented peers reshaped my entire perspective on learning. SXJ pushed me to make that choice every day and proved to me that where there is a will, there is always a way.

If there is one memory that summarizes my time at St. Xavier's, it would be Community Service Day on December 5th. Every class was tasked with an initiative to give back to the community, and as one of the beadles of 11 'A', I helped lead our visit to the Tulasi Foundation orphanage. We spent the day organizing face painting, playing games, and sharing laughter. As we connected with them, I realized that Xavierian values were not merely words, but values lived through action. That day showed me that being a true Xavierian means making a meaningful difference alongside others.

Becoming School Captain quickly taught me that wearing the captain's tie was certainly not a golden ticket to be exempt from the rules—if anything, the responsibility was even greater. It meant setting an example for others.



I have always believed that a leader must be willing to listen, evolve, and embrace new approaches. Serving as Captain reinforced that mindset: to listen, communicate, act, and change.

I hold immense gratitude for having served as School Captain during St. Xavier's seventy-fifth anniversary. Serving in this leadership role during such a monumental milestone makes the tie feel even heavier with responsibility, but it also brings a deep sense of pride.

Being a small part of a seventy five-year journey means standing alongside the generations of Xavierians who built this legacy. To the future Xavierians who will walk these halls, always walk tall and proud, simply because you are a Xaverian. Don't let fear or hesitation get the better of you. Whenever an opportunity comes your way, grab it with both hands and embrace it wholeheartedly. That is where one grows, creates an impact, and leaves a lasting mark.

Aaryav Shrestha
School Captain
Class 12 (2026), SXJ

A Chapter I'll Carry



Life is a journey into the unknown, and sometimes, all we have is the courage to believe in ourselves and take the next step. My journey at St. Xavier's began with exactly that a step into the unknown when I joined the school in Grade 7. The campus felt huge, and having joined two weeks late, I already faced a pile of pending homework.

Yet, with the encouragement of my teachers and my own determination, I slowly found my footing. By the end of Grade 7, I received the Outstanding Student Award. I will always be grateful to the teachers who believed in me, supported me, and encouraged me to strive for better during my first year at the school.

Grade 8 brought another Outstanding Student Award. Becoming a captain was never part of my plan, but the guidance of my teachers and the opportunities SXJ offered gradually inspired me to take that leap.

When I put my name forward for Vice Captain in Grade 9, and later for School Captain, I stepped into something I had never imagined myself doing. I chose to trust myself and take the chance. Eventually, I was given the honor of serving in both roles.

As a student and a leader, there were days that tested my patience, decisions that tested my judgment, and situations that tested my strength. But these moments taught me that courage doesn't mean you aren't afraid, it means you choose to stand up when you are.

As SXJ celebrates its seventy-fifth year, it has given us far more than achievements—it gave us a platform to explore our talents, build our confidence, and become people for others. Thank you, SXJ!

"The only way out is through." - Robert Frost

Grish Dhital
School Captain
Class 10 (2026), SXJ

A Decade of Self-Discovery and Growth

We often remember places for what happened there. I remember St. Xaviers for who it helped me become. Long before I stood on the assembly stage with a red tie and a badge, I stood in the crowd looking up in awe at those who wore it. I admired the confidence with which the captains addressed the school, their leadership in carrying out responsibilities, and the respect they earned through it. Being recognized as Outstanding Student in Grades 6 and 8, and later serving as a Vice Captain gave me opportunities to grow, but I had only ever imagined myself standing where they once stood. So the day my name was announced as the School Captain, it felt almost unreal.

Serving as School Captain has been one of the greatest privileges of my Xavierian journey. It has challenged my thinking, taught me lessons that go far beyond school, helped discover strengths I never knew I had and shown me how St. Xavier's fosters a cozy home like environment. Having spent almost my entire childhood within these halls, I know that years from now, I will remember a lot more than just ceremonies and celebrations.

My greatest lessons were not from any of the textbooks, but in the unexpected encounters, mistakes, and opportunities that have shaped who I am today. Sometimes, I find myself wondering who I would have become if I had taken a different path ten years ago. But when I look back at everything St. Xavier's has given me, I cannot imagine my journey going in any other direction.



As St. Xavier's celebrates its seventy-fifth Jubilee, I feel honoured to be a part of a legacy that has shaped Xavierians throughout the glorious seventy-five years. Going forward, I hope to carry with me the values the school has instilled in me and the memories that will always bring me back home. Wherever life takes me, *once a Xaverian, always a Xaverian!*

Ribhashree Tamrakar
School Captain
Class 10 (2026), SXJ

TEN YEARS IN SXG

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."



I didn't understand why that line stayed with me until years later, sitting in a classroom in SXG, realizing this school never wanted us to rush toward answers, but wanted us to wander through questions until we truly understood them.

Ten years ago, I walked through these gates as a nervous six-year-old holding my mother's hand.

What has shaped me most isn't any single lesson, but the atmosphere itself, a stillness that never felt empty, only attentive. That is the quiet genius of Jesuit education, care for the whole person, and not just the mind. I have watched teachers notice not just what I got wrong on a test, but what was wrong in me on a hard day. I have been pushed toward something more, again and again, gently reminded that good enough was never really the point.

It's in the small things, a teacher staying back after class without being asked, the education that quietly taught me what integrity looks like even when no one's watching.

We are told to be "Men and Women for Others." I used to think it was just words on a wall. Now I know, it's what this place quietly built into me, one patient day at a time.

Thank you, St. Xavier's Godavari, for shaping not just my mind, but the person I'm still becoming.

Aakriti Ghimire
School Captain
Class 10 (2026), SXG

"Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

This single line summarizes the ten years I have spent at this school. When I first walked through these gates, I was small, my backpack felt heavy, and the school felt like a maze I could not navigate alone.

Today, the same school feels like home. These walls and the people around me have watched me grow up, just as my family has. They saw me learn how to read, struggle with cursive, solve complex questions, and build friendships with the people in my batch.

This school did not just teach me lessons from books; it taught me something more. Its calm and peaceful atmosphere has shown me that Jesuit education is not just about getting good marks, it's about helping us succeed in life and become better people.

The teachers here did not just give us grades. They guided us, supported us, and cared for us like their own children. They created an environment where we felt safe and comfortable, almost like we were at home.

This school has also taught us not to simply follow the crowd. It has taught us to think for ourselves, discover who we truly are, and have the courage to be ourselves. The themes of each year are not just words; they represent values that have helped me grow and improve day by day.



I will surely miss the quiet atmosphere; the cold winter breeze, the tall trees swaying peacefully in the wind, and the still waters of the swimming pool. These simple things have made this school feel like home.

After ten years, I realize that SXG has been more than just a place where I studied. It has been a place where I grew, made memories, built friendships, and learned lessons I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

Thank you, SXG, for not only giving me an education, but, more importantly, teaching me how to truly live my life.

Nirish Maharjan
School Captain
Class 10 (2026), SXG



A Decade of Self-Discovery and Growth

We often picture school as a routine of lectures, tests, and assignments. Yet, it would be unfair to reduce it to that, ignoring the quiet moments and milestones that have become lasting memories. From joyous celebrations to spirited competitions, I have created cherished memories in every event.

As the years passed, I continuously found a better version of myself. The Xaverian values have truly shaped me morally, spiritually, emotionally, and mentally. My ten years at St. Xavier's have been a transformative journey of personal development, lifelong friendships, and countless unforgettable moments. I first joined this school as a shy six-year-old—everything felt intimidating at first, but supportive teachers and welcoming friends quickly made it feel like home. This school will always hold a deeply special place in my heart, and I hope to stay connected with the Xaverian community in every way possible as I move forward.

Attrina Tandukar
School Captain
Class 10 (2025), SXG



Memorable Moments in My Life

From the nervous energy of my first day to the rush of finals, my school years were a continuous journey of self-discovery. Ten years later, the hallways where we shared lighthearted laughter are now memories, but the resilience and true friendships forged there still define who I am today.

Every year brought a new beginning for all of us, yet that same Godavari spirit always prevailed. Looking back, those ten years followed a familiar rhythm: ten Sports Days, ten exhibitions, and ten Family Days. We celebrated ten Dashains and ten Christmases together. We used to think that the events we counted down to were the true gifts—but in reality, it is the memories we carry with us, for those are what remain long after the chapters close.

Pratik Silwal
School Captain
Class 10 (2025), SXG

A Reflection on Seven Years: Ready for the Sky

What can I wish for, having touched the sky that now feels so close to me? I do not know.

From getting to know others to discovering myself, life here has been my ultimate guide. The people who shaped me offered opportunities, but life itself kept me engaged—guiding me through my trials and errors.

To me, these seven years felt like seventy—a complete lifetime lived within these walls, growing from a young child into a responsible citizen. I have truly lived my life here, preparing even through adversity.

What have I earned and spent? Won and lost? Learned and forgotten? Changed and embodied? Words come too late to fully capture the glory of this sacred shrine.

Life was fair and unfair, real and surreal, all at the same time. Yet, living by what was taught made me someone others sought out for advice—welcomed to share flaws and free to question with both pride and curiosity.

Indeed, life was beautiful here. And the next chapter will be beautiful, too, because SXG has prepared me to step out into the world.



Indeed, life was beautiful here. The next will be beautiful too — because SXG has made me ready to fit in there.

As we celebrate 75 glorious years of St. Xavier's School, Godavari, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire Xavierian family.

May the spirit of SXG continue to inspire generations to learn, lead, serve, and make a difference.

Happy seventy-fifth Anniversary to St. Xavier's School, Godavari!

Nibodh Chauhat
School Captain
Class 12 (2026), SXG

Excellence is not an act, but a habit

"Excellence is not an act, but a habit." A quote that has deeply inspired me and the quote that this school helped me understand.

What left the deepest impact wasn't just the textbooks or exams, but the culture itself. An environment that encouraged us to think critically while caring deeply.

That is the beauty of this place: it nurtures the spirit just as much as the mind, striving for an individual's overall development rather than just their academic excellence.

I have seen teachers who cared not only about our academic scores, but about our character and well-being.

Time and again, they encouraged us to stretch beyond our comfort zones, gently reminding us our potential was far greater than we believed.



Thank you to the school that not only taught us but built us; not only in mind but in character as well.

Gunjan Bhandari
School Captain
Class 12 (2026), SXG

-INTERVIEWS-

WITH
TEACHERS & STAFF



"Gentleness transforms even stubborn hearts." - BINITA THAPA

FACES OF XAVIER'S

Q.1 What do you remember about your very first day teaching here? What were you nervous about, and how did it actually go?

I remember feeling both enthusiastic and nervous. Everything was completely new to me, and it felt like everyone else was so experienced. But because I was determined to build a professional career, I was committed to learning and growing.

Q.2 Is there a specific classroom, corner, or spot on campus that holds a special memory for you?

A spot that is deeply close to my heart is the annex. Since morning prayers take place there, it has a very positive, peaceful, and airy atmosphere. When all the students chant prayers together, it creates a calm and serene environment that I truly cherish.

Q.3 Has a former student ever come back and shared a moment or lesson that mattered more to them than you realized at the time?

Yes, some former students have returned to tell me how much they appreciated my gentle approach to teaching. I never forced my students or treated them harshly regarding homework; instead, I wanted them to come to school feeling happy. Now that they are all grown up, some of them come back and say, "Ma'am, you always handled every situation with so much patience."





Q.4 Did you ever have a student who was a handful at the time but grew up to make you deeply proud?

Recently, there was a very stubborn girl in my class who would answer back to everyone. One day, I called her aside, gave her some sweets, and spoke to her gently. Today, she and I are like friends, and her positive change in behavior makes me incredibly proud.

Q.5 What is something about Science that you still find genuinely exciting after twenty five+ years of teaching?

Science never gets boring. There are always so many theories, concepts, and new topics to explore that remain deeply relevant and fascinating.

Q.6 What is it like teaching the younger siblings of your former students?

It is a wonderful, proud feeling. Watching younger siblings act responsibly makes me proud, and reflecting on how much my past students have grown fills me with emotion. Recently, I met a girl whose older brother I had taught years ago, and now I am teaching her—it is a truly heartwarming experience. The younger siblings often come up to share what their older brothers and sisters told them about me.

Q.7. What is it like watching former students who are now siblings of your current students?

It's a very proud feeling. Watching the younger siblings act responsibly makes me proud. Also, remembering my old students and how much they have grown since they were young, fills me with a lot of emotions. Recently I found a girl whose brother I once taught and now, I'm teaching her, it's a really heartwarming feeling. The younger siblings also come to me and share about what their elder siblings have told them about me.

Q.8. If a student from your very first class and a student from this year sat in the same room, what do you think you'd want both of them to know?

If a student from your very first class and a student from this year sat in the same room, I hope both would see that I have always cared about my students and would continue to grow and help in whatever area they need help, in whatever way I can.

Q.9. Is there a friendship with a colleague that started in this building and has lasted your whole career?

Yes, absolutely. I have wonderful friends out of which some were also my batchmates, like Jusanshri Maam. We have a very strong friendship. We are more like twin sisters, working together, sharing things for so many years has really made us close. And our children also, raised in the same environment, same school, have also become close friends.

Q.10. What do you hope students remember about you, not the lessons, but you?

I hope the children remember that I wasn't always strict on them and If I have ever been harsh on them, I hope they know that it's for discipline, for their studies. I hope they remember me fondly for the time where I was not harsh on them.

Q.11. What does this school mean to you, beyond being a workplace?

I believe the school is actually a part of me and that I belong to the school. So, I care about all the small things and the big things that happen in the school. I've spent so much of my life in this school, made so many friends, countless memories, received many opportunities and supports. So, I'll always be grateful to the school and St. Xavier's family.

Q.12. As the school turns seventy-five, what do you hope stays true about it for the next seventy-five years?

Well, I hope the transparency, honesty and strong values of sincerity remains the same as it is now. I admire the unique specialty of our school compared to other schools in terms of infrastructure and also cleanliness. There are people helping in the cleaning process all the time and you see them moving with the mop throughout the school compound sweeping all the time, which is why our school is so clean. When I was in kindergarten, which was maybe a bit messy and small. So, when I look at how clean and vast St. Xavier is, I feel relieved. I also hope that the old buildings, and the toilets can get renovated in the near future.

INTERVIEWED BY :
ANUSH SHRESTHA(11'A'),
SHREEYABI RIMAL(11'A'),
PALISTHA SHRESTHA (11'A')

"My students' creativity makes me a better person every day."

- KALYANI R. JOSHI

FACES OF XAVIER'S

Q.1 To begin, how long have you been teaching at St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, and what inspired you to join the school?

This is my twenty-fourth year working at St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel. For me teaching is a calling guided by strong core values and ethics. The school's mission and core values directly align with my personal commitment to integrity, growth and shaping characters. This has been an inspiring factor for me to join and work at this respected institute.



Q.2 After spending more than two decades at St. Xavier's, what do you enjoy most about teaching here?

Teaching is a very interesting profession. Teaching at St. Xavier's is deeply enjoyable and rewarding experience due to the diverse academic dynamics within a classroom. The students are delightfully unpredictable and deeply creative in keeping the classroom alive. This creativity helps me to improve my teaching methods and become a better person and teacher. The liveliness and creativity of these young adults instantly reminds me why I love and enjoy teaching.



Q.3 Has a former student ever come back and shared a moment or lesson that mattered more to them than you realized at the time?

Over the years, St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel has grown remarkably. Infrastructure has modernized with smart classrooms, and the updated curriculum offers flexible subject choices (e.g., Economics vs. Math, Accountancy vs. Computer Science). With expanded extracurriculars and a student-centric approach, students today are far more confident, expressive, and open.

Q.4 St. Xavier's has always been known for nurturing not only academically capable students but also responsible individuals. In your opinion, what qualities or values make St. Xavier's students unique?

St. Xavier's students stand out because they embrace the spirit of **magis**, always striving to do better and giving their beSt. They show enthusiasm, resilience after failure, and a willingness to work harder until they reach their goals. They are also taught to be men and women for others by serving and caring for their community. These values make St. Xavier's students unique.

Q.5 Looking back on your years of teaching, is there a student or a class that has remained especially memorable to you?

My time at St. Xavier's Jawalakhel has given me cherished memories and strong bonds with my students. I fondly recall a group of Grade 2 students from remote districts who overcame language barriers and city adjustment to excel academically. Many still stay in touch—including one now serving as a British Gurkha in the UK. Hearing about their successes fills me with pride and constantly reminds me why I love teaching.

Q.6. Beyond language and literature, what do you hope your students take away from your classes?

Before I answer the question, let me ask you the same. Managya, since you have been my student, what do you remember most from my classes apart from lessons?

Q.7. Apart from literature and grammar, what has stayed with me the most is: the importance of good manners, speaking confidently in public, and believing in ourselves. Those are the lessons I still carry with me today, Ma'am.

Thank you, Managya, for speaking my mind. I never believed that my responsibility is only limited to teaching grammar and literature. I want my students to leave my classroom with life skills they can carry throughout their lives. My ultimate goal is to provide my students with lifelong assets that extend beyond grammar and literature books. I strive to cultivate critical thinking, empathy and confidence, empowering my students to speak their minds authentically and courageously.

Q.8.What advice would you like to give students as they prepare for their future?

This is a profound question. First and foremost, I would like my students to be honest with themselves. Secondly, I want them to live by the golden rule: "Do unto others as you want others to do unto you." Treat everyone with the same kindness and respect that you expect to receive. I want my students to plan their time wisely and embrace correction. Above all, I want them to be compassionate and kind to everyone around them. I am always here to listen to and support you.

Q9.As St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel celebrates its seventy fifth anniversary, what are your hopes and wishes for the school?

I would like to take this opportunity to wish St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel a prosperous and a happy seventy-fifth anniversary. As our school celebrates this milestone, I hope and wish our school continues to nurture not just brilliant minds but also kind hearts carrying the legacy of our school forward for generations to come by producing well-rounded individuals not just academically strong but compassionate, humble and ethical citizens for our country Nepal.

Q.10 Finally, Ma'am, if you could describe your twenty three-year journey at St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel in just a few words, what would they be?

Describing twenty three years in just a few words is certainly a challenge. My journey at St. Xavier's has been incredibly enriching, transformative, challenging, and cherish able. I have had countless moments of joy associated with St. Xavier's. Therefore, I am satiated and gratified to be a part of this evolving journey. Every batch of students has taught me something new. Every year has given me memories that I will cherish forever. I learnt more than I taught, and I grew along with the growth of my students. I consider myself fortunate to be able to empower my students by making a positive impact in their lives through my passion.

INTERVIEWED BY :
MANAGYA LAL (11'A'),
PADMASAMBHAV S.J.B RANA (11'A'),

"Never stop learning, because life never stops teaching." - BINITA GIRI

FACES OF XAVIER'S

Q.1 How did you feel when you first entered St. Xavier's?

I joined in 2004 feeling thrilled and deeply grateful. St. Xavier's was—and remains—one of the valley's most prestigious schools, so joining felt like reaching a mountain summit. Despite a few nervous butterflies, I felt truly thankful to God, my parents, and my teachers.

Q.2 Teaching is challenging. What keeps your energy alive every day?

Being surrounded by creative young minds keeps me going. Even on tough days, my students inspire me through their fresh perspectives, respect, and affection. Moments like Guru Purnima constantly remind me why I love this profession.





Q.3 Without any bias, which batch would you say has been the most memorable for you, and why??

Without any bias, I would have to say the batch of 2004—the very first batch I taught after joining St. Xavier's. It was a special experience because it was my first time stepping into the classroom as a teacher here. At that time, St. Xavier's was still an all-boys institution, and I can still vividly remember the boys in their white trousers and sky-blue shirts. Those memories have stayed with me even after all these years, which makes that batch particularly memorable.

Q.4 Having taught here for twenty two years, how have students changed?

Past students were generally calmer, more reserved, and focused. Today's students face social media distractions, but they are also far more open and expressive with their teachers. While times have changed, their core goodness remains the same.

Q.5 If there were one message you could give to the entire St. Xavier's community, what would it be?

" I would say: "Never stop learning, because life never stops teaching." That is the core message I would like to share with all my students and the entire school family. Learning does not end when we leave the classroom; every experience, every person, and every stage of life has something valuable to teach us.

Q.6 What do you miss most about the school from twenty years ago?

I miss many things, the old physical structures, former staff members, past students, and, of course, the overall atmosphere and vibe of the school from those days. There was something truly special about St. Xavier's back then. At the same time, I am happy to see how much the school has grown and progressed. The buildings may have changed, the people may have transitioned, and times have certainly moved forward, but one thing has remained constant: the core values of St. Xavier's. That is what makes this institution truly special.

Q.7. After being here for more than two decades, what is something you miss about the St. Xavier's of twenty years ago?

This is a profound question. First and foremost, I would like my students to be honest with themselves. Secondly, I want them to live by the golden rule: "Do unto others as you want others to do unto you." Treat everyone with the same kindness and respect that you expect to receive. I want my students to plan their time wisely, embrace correction, and learn from their mistakes. Above all, I want them to be compassionate and kind to everyone around them. I am always here to listen to and support you.

INTERVIEWED BY :
SAMEER RAY(11'A'),
PRAJWOL SHRESTHA(11'B'),
SAURYA BHAKTA SHRESTHA(11'A')

"Honored to teach, inspired to guide."

- BANDANA BASNET

FACES OF XAVIER'S

Q.1 How does it feel to have worked at SXJ for over twenty years?

It feels truly great. I feel very honoured to have been part of this institution for so long. Every day is a gift. It feels like one of my greatest achievements to be so embedded in the life of this school. I believe I am one of the prime individuals of this institute.

Q.2 Teaching is challenging. What keeps your energy alive every day?

It is demanding and challenging, mainly for the students of this era. But then, I feel every individual cannot become a teacher. Not every profession can be handled like a teacher does. So, there has to be a special power, there has to be a command, and there has to be a self-motivation to come back to the class every day. So, to me, what inspires me is that I do lots of research and reflection before I come to the class, that sparks my eyes, and motivates and, I feel, like giving something new to my students, minds.





Q.3 Without any bias, which batch would you say has been the most memorable for you, and why?

There are lots. This is my twenty third batch working. Every batch has its own specialty. Your batch had your own; the current batch has its own. But with a change of time, I still remember those students in white pants and blue shirts. That is a part I never can forget. But when the uniform changed into these grey pants and white shirts–and a blue shirt for the juniors–it became quite different. But I still remember the days when even the girls wore white skirts with blue shirts, and the boys wore white pants with blue shirts. That's the best memory I still have in my mind.

Q.4 Having taught here for twenty two years, how have students changed?

Okay, that's really challenging. To be with twenty two batches of students at SXJ is a miracle. Every batch has its specialty, as I have already mentioned. I can never forget my students. I still remember their personality, their ways of learning, their ways of belongingness, and the connection they made with me is so special.

Q.5 What are your wishes for the school as it approaches its centenary?

The school is approaching its 75th year, I hope we continue to advance with the value system brought here by the founding fathers, spreading it beyond the campus. May my students be a source of comfort, kindness, and hope to everyone they meet.

Q.6 How does it feel when your former students return as successful individuals?

Seeing our former students succeed as doctors, engineers, pilots, nurses, or entrepreneurs makes both parents and teachers extremely proud. Their achievements keep me going and inspire me to return to the classroom every single day to motivate our current students. Knowing that they are returning as great individuals to contribute to our country is truly wonderful. Ultimately, seeing them work and rise together for our nation is what makes all our efforts as educators worthwhile.

Q.7 If you have to describe our school's unique identity in just three words, what would it be?

It is the best missionary convent school in Nepal, and we should all be truly proud of that. What sets us apart is how actively we inculcate core values into our students' daily lives beyond academics. From our management to our discipline, we focus on building a specific, strong character in every individual. Compared to other institutions across the country, as a whole, we are extraordinarily different from the rest!

Q.8 What is the one value or spirit that has remained unchanged all over these years?

Having spent my prime lifetime at SXJ, the unchanged value is the feeling of family. This feeling hasn't changed and will remain for a lifetime.

Q.9 What are your fondest memories of your students?

TThe best memory I reflect on is getting back the love that I shared with my students back then. Even when they send me a simple message asking how I am doing, I feel like the happiest person. Knowing they remember me and wish to visit when they return to Nepal makes me extraordinarily proud. I cherish these fondest memories every day, and they will truly never be forgotten throughout my life.

Closing Remarks; Thank you to everyone. I am sending you all my love. Live for God, lead for Nepal.

INTERVIEWED BY :
SAMEER RAY(11'A'),
SAURYA BHAKTA SHRESTHA(11'A'),
PRAJWOL SHRESTHA(11'B'),

"ज्ञान र प्रविधिको सन्तुलन नै आधुनिक पुस्तकालय हो।"

- JIVAN KARKI

१. आदरणीय सर, कृपया आफ्नो जीवनयात्रा र पुस्तकलयसँगको सम्बन्धबारे संक्षिप्तमा बताइदिनुहोस्।

मेरो नाम जीवन बहादुर कार्की हो। मेरो जन्म तनहुँ जिल्लाको भानु नगरपालिका–६ मा एक साधारण किसान परिवारमा भएको हो। मैले एसएलसी सम्मको शिक्षा आफ्नै गाउँमा पूरा गरेँ। गाउँको सामान्य परिवेशबाट शिक्षा हासिल गर्दै उच्च शिक्षाको खोजीमा म काठमाडौं आएको हुँ। काठमाडौं आएपछि अध्ययनसँगै नयाँ परिवेश, अवसर र चुनौतीसँग परिचित हुने अवसर पाएँ। यस यात्राले मलाई निरन्तर सिक्न, मेहनत गर्न र आफ्नो ज्ञान तथा अनुभवलाई समाजसँग जोड्न प्रेरित गरेको छ। काठमाडौंमा काम गर्दै पढ्दै जाने क्रममा सन् २००१ मा म काठमाडौं विश्वविद्यालयको पुस्तकालयसँग आबद्ध हुने अवसर पाएँ। त्यहाँ काम गर्ने क्रममा पुस्तकालय व्यवस्थापन, पुस्तक वर्गीकरण, पाठक सेवा तथा पुस्तकालय सञ्चालनका विभिन्न पक्षबारे धेरै कुरा सिक्ने र बुझ्ने अवसर प्राप्त भयो।

त्यसपछि मैले नेपालको विभिन्न पुस्तकालयहरूको भ्रमण गर्दै पुस्तकालय व्यवस्थापनका अभ्यास, प्रणाली र कार्यशैलीबारे जानकारी संकलन गर्न थालेँ। यस क्रममा प्राप्त ज्ञान र अनुभवलाई व्यवहारमा प्रयोग गर्दै आफूलाई पुस्तकालय व्यवस्थापनको क्षेत्रमा अझ दक्ष बनाउँदै लगेँ। सन् २००६ जुनदेखि मैले सेन्ट जेभियर स्कुल पुस्तकालयमा काम गर्ने अवसर पाएँ। यही क्षेत्रसँग निरन्तर जोडिँदै जाँदा पुस्तकालय व्यवस्थापन मेरो रोजगारी मात्र नभई मेरो मनपर्ने पेसा र रुचिको क्षेत्रसमेत बनेको छ। आज पनि पुस्तक, पाठक र पुस्तकालयसँग जोडिएर काम गर्न पाउनु मेरो लागि सन्तुष्टि र प्रेरणाको विषय हो।





२. तपाईले दुई दशकसम्म पुस्तकालयमा सेवा दिनुहुँदा सबैभन्दा महत्त्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन के देख्नुभयो?

यतिका वर्षसम्म पुस्तकालयमा काम गर्ने क्रममा मैले पुस्तकालयको स्वरूप कार्यशैलीमा धेरै ठूलो परिवर्तन देखेको छु। यो परिवर्तन हाम्रो स्कुल पुस्तकालयमा मात्र सीमित छैन; र नेपालमा मात्र होइन, विश्वभरिका पुस्तकालयहरू पनि समय र प्रविधिको विकाससँगै परिवर्तन हुँदै गएका छन्। म पुस्तकालयमा प्रवेश गर्दा पुस्तकालयका अधिकांश कामहरू हातैले अर्थात् म्यानुअल रूपमा गरिन्थे। पुस्तकको अभिलेख राख्ने, खोज्ने, वितरण गर्ने लगायतका काममा धेरै समय र श्रम लाग्थ्यो। त्यसबेला प्रविधिको प्रयोग आजको जस्तो व्यापक थिएन। समयसँगै प्रविधिको विकास हुँदै गएपछि हामीले पनि पुस्तकालयलाई प्रविधिमैत्री बनाउँदै लग्यौं। पुस्तकालय सफ्टवेयर, कम्प्युटर, बारकोड प्रणाली, इन्टरनेटलगायतका प्रविधिको प्रयोग सुरु गर्‍यौं। यसले पुस्तक व्यवस्थापन, अभिलेखीकरण, खोजी तथा पाठक सेवा निकै सहज र व्यवस्थित बनाएको छ। पहिलेको म्यानुअल प्रणालीको तुलनामा अहिलेको प्रविधिमा आधारित पुस्तकालय व्यवस्थापन छिटो, सजिलो, व्यवस्थित र प्रभावकारी भएको महसुस गरेको छु। यस परिवर्तनलाई आफ्नै कार्यजीवनमा प्रत्यक्ष अनुभव गर्न पाउनु मेरो लागि निकै महत्वपूर्ण सिकाइ र उपलब्धि हो।

३. विद्यार्थी तथा पाठकहरूको पढ्ने संस्कृतिमा समयसँगै आएको रूपान्तरणलाई तपाईं कसरी मूल्याङ्कन गर्नुहुन्छ?

विद्यार्थी तथा पाठकहरूको पढ्ने संस्कृतिमा समयसँगै ठूलो परिवर्तन आएको मैले प्रत्यक्ष रूपमा अनुभव गरेको छु। पहिले पाठकहरू पुस्तकालयमा आएर घण्टौंसम्म पुस्तक, पत्रपत्रिका तथा अन्य पाठ्य सामग्री पढ्ने गर्थे। पुस्तकालय नै अध्ययन र ज्ञान प्राप्त गर्ने प्रमुख स्थान थियो। मैले पुस्तकालयमा काम सुरु गर्दा कम्प्युटर र इन्टरनेटजस्ता प्रविधिहरू विस्तार हुने क्रममै थिए।

अहिले प्रविधिको तीव्र विकाससँगै मोबाइल र इन्टरनेटको पहुँच व्यापक भएको छ। त्यसैले पाठकहरूलाई अध्ययनका लागि सधैं भौतिक रूपमा पुस्तकालयमै आउनुपर्ने अवस्था छैन। पुस्तक तथा पत्रपत्रिकासँगै अनलाइन लेख, ई–बुक, अनुसन्धान सामग्री र सामाजिक सञ्जालमार्फत पढ्ने प्रवृत्ति पनि बढेको छ। म यो परिवर्तनलाई समग्रमा सकारात्मक रूपमा लिन्छु। अहिले विद्यार्थी तथा पाठकहरूले संसारका विभिन्न ठाउँमा प्रकाशित पुस्तक, अनुसन्धान सामग्री र शैक्षिक स्रोतहरू इन्टरनेटको पहुँच भएको ठाउँबाटै प्राप्त गर्न सक्छन्। यसले ज्ञानको पहुँचलाई निकै फराकिलो बनाएको छ। तर प्रविधिको प्रयोग सही र विवेकपूर्ण हुनुपर्छ। डिजिटल स्रोतको सदुपयोग गर्दै पुस्तक पढ्ने बानी र गहिरो अध्ययनलाई पनि निरन्तरता दिन सकेमा आधुनिक पढ्ने संस्कृतिले विद्यार्थी तथा पाठकको ज्ञान, क्षमता र सोचलाई अझ व्यापक बनाउन सक्छ।

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४. डिजिटल पुस्तकालय र इन्टरनेटको आगमनले तपाईंको कार्यशैलीमा कस्तो प्रभाव पारेको छ?

डिजिटल पुस्तकालय र इन्टरनेटको आगमनले मेरो कार्यशैलीमा सकारात्मक र उल्लेखनीय प्रभाव पारेको छ। पहिले डिजिटल पुस्तकालय र आधुनिक प्रविधिको पहुँच नहुँदा विद्यार्थी तथा पाठकहरूलाई आवश्यक सेवा छिटो र प्रभावकारी रूपमा प्रदान गर्न केही कठिनाइ हुन्थ्यो। पुस्तक खोज्न, अभिलेख हेर्न तथा आवश्यक सामग्री उपलब्ध गराउन बढी समय लाग्थ्यो। आजभोलि डिजिटल पुस्तकालय, इन्टरनेट, कम्प्युटर तथा कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता जस्ता प्रविधिको प्रयोगले मेरो कार्यशैलीलाई अझ छिटो, व्यवस्थित र प्रभावकारी बनाएको छ। विद्यार्थी तथा पाठकलाई आवश्यक पुस्तक तथा सूचना खोज्न र उपलब्ध गराउन सहज भएको छ। साथै, विभिन्न डिजिटल स्रोत तथा अनलाइन सामग्रीका कारण पुस्तकालयको सेवा भौतिक पुस्तकमा मात्र सीमित नरही व्यापक बनेको छ। यसरी प्रविधिले मेरो कामलाई सहज बनाउनुका साथै पाठकलाई अझ राम्रो सेवा प्रदान गर्न र समयअनुसार पुस्तकालयलाई परिवर्तन गर्दै लैजान ठूलो सहयोग गरेको छ।

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५ . २० वर्षको यात्रामा कुनै विशेष घटना वा अनुभव जुन अझै पनि तपाईंलाई स्मरणीय लाग्छ कृपया साझा गरिदिनुहोस्।

मेरो पुस्तकालय यात्रामा धेरै विशेष घटना र अनुभवहरू छन्। तीमध्ये एउटा विशेष सम्झना २०७२ सालको भूकम्पसँग जोडिएको छ। त्यो वर्षको भूकम्पले नेपालमा ठूलो जनधनको क्षति गरेको थियो। धेरै घर तथा भवनहरूमा क्षति पुगेको थियो र शैक्षिक संस्था तथा कार्यालयहरू पनि बन्द भएका थिए। त्यही समयमा म लगायत मेरा केही साथीहरू इलाममा रहेको महेन्द्र रत्न बहुमुखी क्याम्पसको पुस्तकालय व्यवस्थापन तथा पुनःव्यवस्थित गर्ने कामका लागि केही दिन सुन्दर इलाम बजारमा बसेका थियौं। कठिन परिस्थितिका बीच पुस्तकालयसँग सम्बन्धित काममा योगदान गर्न पाउनु मेरो लागि अविस्मरणीय अनुभव थियो। त्यसैगरी, हाम्रो स्कुलमा भएको अर्को घटना पनि मेरो मनमा सधैं सम्झनायोग्य छ।

एकजना विद्यार्थीका बुबाले आफ्नो छोराले पाठ्यपुस्तकभन्दा पुस्तकालयका अन्य पुस्तकहरू धेरै पढ्न थालेको भन्दै अब उसलाई धेरै पुस्तक नदिनुहोला भनेर भन्नुभएको थियो। तर मैले पुस्तक पढ्नु विद्यार्थीका लागि सकारात्मक कुरा हो भन्ने दृष्टिकोण राखें। आज त्यही विद्यार्थी डाक्टर भएका छन्। यो घटनाले मलाई एउटा महत्वपूर्ण कुरा सिकाएको छ—ज्ञान प्राप्त गर्नु भनेको पाठ्यपुस्तक मात्र पढ्नु होइन रहेछ। पाठ्यपुस्तकले औपचारिक शिक्षा दिन्छ भने अन्य पुस्तकहरूले सोच, कल्पना, ज्ञान र जीवनलाई बुझ्ने दृष्टिकोण फराकिलो बनाउँछन्। त्यसैले विद्यार्थीलाई विभिन्न प्रकारका पुस्तक पढ्ने अवसर दिनु पनि उनीहरूको समग्र विकासका लागि अत्यन्त महत्वपूर्ण छ।

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६. पुस्तकालयमा नयाँ पुस्तकहरू चयन गर्दा तपाईंले कुन मापदण्डलाई प्राथमिकता दिनुहुन्छ?

मैले नयाँ पुस्तकहरू छनोट गर्दा विद्यार्थी तथा शिक्षकहरूको अनुरोध, आवश्यकता र रुचिलाई प्राथमिकतामा राख्छु। त्यससँगै पुस्तकको विषयवस्तु र गुणस्तर, लेखकको विश्वसनीयता, प्रकाशकको स्तर, पुस्तकको नयाँ संस्करण र मूल्यलाई पनि ध्यानमा राख्छु। पाठ्यक्रमसँग सम्बन्धित पुस्तकहरूलाई प्राथमिकता दिँदै साहित्य, विज्ञान, प्रविधि, इतिहास, समाज, संस्कृति तथा समसामयिक विषयका पुस्तकहरूलाई पनि पुस्तकालयमा समावेश गर्ने प्रयास गर्छु। मेरो विचारमा पुस्तकालयमा पाठ्यक्रमका पुस्तक मात्र नभई विद्यार्थीको ज्ञान, सिर्जनशीलता, सोच र व्यक्तित्व विकासमा सहयोग गर्ने विविध विषयका पुस्तकहरू पनि हुन आवश्यक छ। त्यसैले पुस्तक छनोट गर्दा विद्यार्थी र शिक्षकको आवश्यकता तथा रुचि, पुस्तकको गुणस्तर र समसामयिकतालाई सन्तुलनमा राखेर निर्णय गर्ने गर्छु।

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७. पाठकहरूसँगको अन्तरक्रियाबाट तपाईंले प्राप्त गर्नुभएको प्रमुख सिकाइ के हो?

पुस्तकालय कर्मचारीका रूपमा काम गर्दा मैले पाठकहरूसँगको अन्तरक्रियाबाट धेरै कुरा सिक्ने र आफ्नो कामलाई अझ परिष्कृत गर्ने अवसर पाएको छु। हरेक पाठकको आवश्यकता, रुचि र पढ्ने शैली फरक–फरक हुन्छ भन्ने कुरा मैले प्रत्यक्ष रूपमा अनुभव गरेको छु। विशेषगरी स्कुल पुस्तकालयमा आउने पाठक र विश्वविद्यालयमा आउने पाठकहरूको रुचि, आवश्यकता र अध्ययन गर्ने तरिका फरक हुन्छ। त्यसैले पाठकको आवश्यकता र रुचिलाई राम्रोसँग बुझ्न सकियो भने उनीहरूका लागि उपयुक्त पुस्तक तथा सामग्री छनोट गर्न पनि सहज हुन्छ। मेरो विचारमा पुस्तकालयको काम भनेको पुस्तक खरिद गरेर दराजमा सजाएर राख्नु मात्र होइन। पुस्तक पाठकसम्म पुग्नुपर्छ र पाठकको आवश्यकताअनुसार सही पुस्तक सही समयमा उपलब्ध गराउन सक्नुपर्छ। आजका विद्यार्थी तथा पाठकहरू प्रविधिसँग परिचित, जिज्ञासु र धेरै स्मार्ट छन्। त्यसैले हामीले उनीहरूलाई सिकाउने मात्र होइन, उनीहरूबाट पनि नयाँ कुरा सिक्ने र आफूलाई समयअनुसार परिवर्तन गर्दै लैजाने प्रयास गर्नुपर्छ।

८. आजको डिजिटल युगमा पनि पुस्तकालय किन अपरिहार्य छ भन्ने तपाईको दृष्टिकोण के हो

आजको डिजिटल युगमा पनि पुस्तकालयको अपरिहार्यता उत्तिकै छ। पुस्तकालय भनेको केवल पुस्तक तथा पत्रपत्रिका राख्ने ठाउँ मात्र होइन; यो ज्ञान, सूचना, अध्ययन र विश्वसनीय स्रोत प्राप्त गर्ने केन्द्र हो। इन्टरनेटमा सूचना प्रशस्त मात्रामा उपलब्ध भए पनि सबै सूचना विश्वसनीय र प्रमाणित हुन्छन् भन्ने छैन। त्यसैले पाठकलाई सही र विश्वसनीय स्रोतसम्म पुर्‍याउन पुस्तकालयको भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण हुन्छ। साथै, सबै पाठकसँग इन्टरनेट, मोबाइल वा कम्प्युटरको समान पहुँच नहुन सक्छ। लामो समयसम्म मोबाइल वा कम्प्युटरको स्क्रिनमा बसेर पढ्न पनि धेरैलाई सहज हुँदैन। त्यसैगरी, ई-बुक वा इन्टरनेटमा पढ्दा विभिन्न विज्ञापन, नोटिफिकेसन तथा अन्य डिजिटल व्यवधानका कारण एकाग्रता कायम गर्न कठिन हुन सक्छ। पुस्तकालयको शान्त वातावरणले भने पाठकलाई गहिरो अध्ययन र एकाग्रताका साथ पढ्न सहयोग गर्छ। त्यसैले मेरो दृष्टिकोणमा डिजिटल युगले पुस्तकालयको आवश्यकता हटाएको होइन, यसको भूमिका अझ व्यापक र महत्वपूर्ण बनाएको छ। अबको पुस्तकालयले भौतिक पुस्तकसँगै डिजिटल स्रोत र प्रविधिलाई पनि समेटेर पाठकलाई विश्वसनीय ज्ञान र अध्ययनको सहज वातावरण प्रदान गर्नुपर्छ।

९. लामो समयसम्म पुस्तकालय सञ्चालन गर्दा तपाईले सामना गर्नुपरेका प्रमुख चुनौतीहरू बारे बताइदिनुस्।

हो, मैले लामो समयदेखि यस क्षेत्रमा काम गर्दै विभिन्न पुस्तकालयको अनुभव लिएको छु। यस क्रममा मैले समयअनुसार पुस्तकालय सञ्चालनका चुनौतीहरू पनि परिवर्तन हुँदै गएको अनुभव गरेको छु। सुरुका दिनमा पुस्तकालय सञ्चालनका लागि विद्युत् आपूर्ति नै ठूलो समस्या थियो। त्यसबेला सोलार वा इन्भर्टरको व्यवस्था भए पनि धेरै सहज हुन्थ्यो। बिस्तारै कम्प्युटर र इन्टरनेटको प्रयोग सुरु भयो, तर त्यसपछि चुनौतीहरू पनि नयाँ रूपमा थपिँदै गए। अहिले राम्रो क्षमताका कम्प्युटर, भरपर्दो र उच्च गतिको इन्टरनेट तथा वाइफाइ, गुणस्तरीय प्रिन्टर र प्रभावकारी लाइब्रेरी सफ्टवेयरको आवश्यकता हुन्छ। त्यसैगरी, पाठकको आवश्यकता र रुचिअनुसार पर्याप्त पुस्तक तथा डिजिटल सामग्री उपलब्ध गराउनु पनि चुनौतीकै विषय हो। भविष्यमा पाठकले घरमै बसेर वा संसारको जुनसुकै ठाउँबाट हाम्रो पुस्तकालयका डिजिटल स्रोत तथा सेवाहरू प्रयोग गर्न सक्ने व्यवस्था अझै प्रभावकारी बनाउन आवश्यक छ। हाम्रो पुस्तकालयमा पर्याप्त प्राविधिक जनशक्तिको व्यवस्थापन, आधुनिक तथा सुविधायुक्त पढ्ने कोठाको निर्माणजस्ता पक्षमा पनि अझ सुधार गर्नुपर्ने आवश्यकता छ। यी सबै चुनौतीहरू एकैपटक समाधान गर्न नसकिए पनि समयअनुसार प्राथमिकता निर्धारण गर्दै क्रमशः सुधार र विकास गर्दै लैजानुपर्छ भन्ने मेरो धारणा छ। चुनौतीहरूलाई समस्याका रूपमा मात्र नहेरी सुधार र नयाँ सम्भावनाको अवसरका रूपमा लिन सकेमा पुस्तकालयलाई अझ प्रभावकारी र पाठकमैत्री बनाउन सकिन्छ।

१०. आगामी दशकमा पुस्तकालयलाई तपाईले कसरी देख्नुभएको छ?

आगामी दशकमा म पुस्तकालयलाई परम्परागत रूपमा पुस्तक राख्ने वा भण्डारण गर्ने ठाउँका रूपमा मात्र नभई ज्ञान, प्रविधि र समुदायलाई जोड्ने आधुनिक सिकाइ केन्द्रका रूपमा देख्छु। आगामी दिनमा पुराना तथा ऐतिहासिक पुस्तकहरूलाई डिजिटलाइजेसन गर्ने काम अझ व्यापक हुनेछ। पुस्तक मात्र होइन, पुस्तकालयमा सुरक्षित रहेका चिठीपत्र, पुराना दस्तावेज, फोटो तथा अन्य ऐतिहासिक सामग्रीलाई पनि डिजिटल प्रविधिमार्फत संरक्षण गरिनेछ। आवश्यकताअनुसार यस्ता सामग्रीलाई अडियो, भिडियो तथा अन्य डिजिटल स्वरूपमा रूपान्तरण गरेर नयाँ पुस्तासम्म पुर्‍याउन सकिनेछ। त्यसैगरी, पुस्तकालयलाई केवल अध्ययन गर्ने स्थानमा सीमित नराखी अनुसन्धान तथा ज्ञान उत्पादनको केन्द्रका रूपमा विकास गर्नुपर्ने आवश्यकता छ। भौतिक रूपमा रहेका स्रोतसाधनलाई पनि व्यवस्थित रूपमा संरक्षण गर्दै पाठकले सहज रूपमा प्रयोग गर्न सक्ने वातावरण बनाइनुपर्छ। मेरो दृष्टिकोणमा आगामी दशकको पुस्तकालय भौतिक र डिजिटल दुवै स्वरूपको सन्तुलित, प्रविधिमैत्री, अनुसन्धानमुखी र ज्ञानकेन्द्रित पुस्तकालय हुनेछ, जसले पाठक, अनुसन्धानकर्ता, विद्यार्थी र समुदायलाई ज्ञानसँग अझ नजिकबाट जोड्नेछ।

११. तपाईलाई निरन्तर पुस्तकालयसँग जोडिरहन प्रेरित गर्ने शक्ति के हो?

मलाई निरन्तर पुस्तकालयसँग जोडिरहने प्रमुख प्रेरणा भनेको नयाँ कुरा सिक्ने र सिकाउने चाहना हो। पुस्तकालयमा काम गर्दै जाँदा विभिन्न उमेर समूह र फरक-फरक रुचि भएका विद्यार्थीहरूसँग निरन्तर अन्तरक्रिया गर्ने अवसर प्राप्त हुन्छ। उनीहरूको जिज्ञासा, प्रश्न र रुचिबाट मैले पनि निरन्तर नयाँ कुरा सिक्ने अवसर पाएको छु। मेरो बाल्यकालमा पाठ्यपुस्तकभन्दा बाहिरका धेरै पुस्तकहरू पढ्ने अवसर थिएन। त्यतिबेला पुस्तकालय भनेको के हो र यसको महत्त्व कति हुन्छ भन्ने कुरा बुझ्ने अवसर पनि कम थियो। तर आज आफू ज्ञान र सूचनाको यति ठूलो भण्डारभित्र बसेर विभिन्न पाठकको रुचि र आवश्यकता बुझ्दै पुस्तक र ज्ञानबीचको सम्बन्ध स्थापित गर्न सक्ने अवसर पाएको छु। यही परिवर्तन र सिकाइले मलाई पुस्तकालयको क्षेत्रमा निरन्तर काम गरिरहन प्रेरित गरेको छ। त्यसैले पुस्तकालय मेरो लागि केवल सेवा वा रोजगारीको क्षेत्र मात्र नभई निरन्तर सिक्ने, सिकाउने र ज्ञान बाँड्ने माध्यम बनेको छ। यही भावनाले आजसम्म मलाई पुस्तकालयसँग जोडिरहन ठूलो प्रेरणा दिएको छ।

INTERVIEWED BY :
BIRAJ NEPAL(11'A'),
ADHYAN PRADHAN (11'A'),
ISHAAN SHARMA(11'A')

"खेलमै बित्यो जीवन, मैदानमै समेटिए सम्झनाहरू"

- OM KRISHNA SHRESTHA

FACES OF XAVIER'S

१. तपाईं ३८ वर्षदेखि फुटबल सिकाउँदै आउनु भएको छ। तपाईंले यो यात्रा कसरी सुरु गर्नुभयो?

मैले ९ वर्षको हुँदा फुटबल खेल्न सुरु गरेँ। ३५ वर्ष पहिले मलाई काठमाडौंमा नचिन्ने मानिस कमै थिए होला। मैले कलेज सकाएँ र मलाई थाहा थियो कि म फुटबललाई मेरो करियर बनाउन चाहन्छु। म राष्ट्रिय स्तरकै खेलाडी पनि थिएँ। फुटबल मेरो रुचि थियो। त्यसैले, मैले फुटबल सिकाउने निर्णय गरेँ। म फुटबल खेल्न र अरु विद्यार्थीहरूलाई पनि सिकाउन चाहन्थें।

२. यति लामो सेवाकालमा फुटबल मैदानसँग जोडिएको सबैभन्दा अविस्मरणीय क्षण कुन हो?

तथाकथै ६ महिना अघि हाम्रो सेन्ट जाभियर्स फुटबल टोलीले एउटै दिनमा ३ खेलमा भाग लिएको थियो र हामीले ती ३ खेलहरूमा सबैमा गोल्ड जित्यौं, जुन अझै मेरो लागि अविस्मणीय क्षण हो। १६ वर्ष अगाडि महिला फुटबलमा स्कुलको ६ वर्ष सम्म लगातार सबै खेलमा प्रथम स्थान प्राप्त पनि अविस्मणीय क्षण हो।





३. तपाईंले आफ्ना खेलाडीहरूलाई सधैं सिकाउन खोज्नुभएको सबैभन्दा महत्त्वपूर्ण मूल्य वा जीवनको पाठ के हो?

कुनै पनि खेल खेल्नका लागि, तपाईंलाई त्यसमा धेरै रुचि हुनु पर्छ। तपाईं खेलमा धेरै सक्रिय हुनुपर्छ। तपाईं अत्यन्तै आत्म-अनुशासित हुनु पर्छ। तपाईं धेरै धैर्यवान हुनु पर्छ। यो हाम्रो शिक्षकले हामीलाई सिकाउनुभएको कुरा हो। हामी धेरै धैर्यवान हुनुपर्छ। हामीमा अत्यन्तै आत्म-अनुशासित हुनुपर्छ।

४. तपाईंले धेरै पुस्ताका विद्यार्थीहरूलाई प्रशिक्षण दिनुभएको छ। कुनै विद्यार्थी वा टोलीको सफलता वा संघर्षको कथा आज पनि विशेष रूपमा सम्झनुहुन्छ?

लगभग ३० वर्ष पहिले, हाम्रो एउटा टिम थियो, त्यो टिम धेरै राम्रो थियो। उनीहरूले धेरै कप र ट्रफी जितेका थिए। म अझै पनि उनीहरूसँग निकै राम्रो सम्बन्ध छ। त्यो टिम अहिलेसम्म मैले पाएको सबैभन्दा राम्रो टिम थियो।

५. प्रशिक्षकको रूपमा तपाईंले सामना गर्नुभएको सबैभन्दा ठूलो चुनौती के थियो, र त्यसलाई कसरी पार गर्नुभयो?

धेरै विद्यार्थीहरू फुटबलमा अत्यन्त प्रतिभाशाली छन्, तर कही राम्रो विद्यार्थीहरू पढाइमा त्यति प्रतिभाशाली नभएकाले र परीक्षामा नराम्रो हुने भएकाले, उनका बुबाआमा र स्कुल व्यवस्थापनले उनीहरूलाई खेल्नबाट रोक्छन्। कारण त ठिक छ, किनभने पढाइ पनि महत्वपूर्ण हुन्छ, तर यो हामी फुटबल खेलाडीहरूको लागि सधैं ठूलो चिन्ताको विषय रह्यो। भविष्यमा राष्ट्रिय खेलाडी बन्न सक्ने विद्यार्थीहरूले पनि आफ्नो एकेडेमिक रेकर्ड कमजोर भएको कारण फुटबल छोड्नुपर्ने अवस्था आउँदा अलि दुख लाग्छ

६. हारपछि निराश भएका खेलाडीहरूलाई फेरि उत्साहित र आत्मविश्वासी बनाउने तपाईंको तरिका के हो?

म कुनै विद्यार्थीलाई भन्न चाहन्छु कि जीवनमा सधैँ कोही जित्न सक्दैन। हार जीवनको आवश्यक भाग हो। तपाईंले आफ्ना असफलताबाट सिक्नुपर्छ र तपाईंको अर्को खेलमा अझ राम्रो खेल्नुपर्छ भन्ने आत्मविश्वास बढाउने कोसिस गर्छु।

७. तपाईंका पूर्व खेलाडीहरूमध्ये धेरै आज विभिन्न क्षेत्रमा सफल छन्। उनीहरूमध्ये कसैसँग अझै पनि सम्पर्क छ? उनीहरूको सफलताले तपाईंलाई कस्तो अनुभूति गराउँछ?

हो, मेरा धेरै पुराना विद्यार्थीहरू राष्ट्रिय र अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय स्तरमा विभिन्न क्लबहरूमा खेलिरहेका छन्। उनीहरूले कहिलेकाहीँ मलाई कल गरेर आफ्नो म्याचबारे जानकारी दिन्छन् र केहीले त विदेशबाट फुटबल टिकट समेत पठाउँछन्। कहिलेकाहीँ उनीहरूबाट सुन्दा साँच्चै आनन्द लाग्छ।

८. यदि तपाईंले आफ्नो जीवनको एउटा मात्र खेल वा प्रतियोगिता फेरि अनुभव गर्न पाउनुभयो भने, त्यो कुन हुनेछ र किन?

मैले धेरै वर्ष अघि रंगशालामा खेलेको थिएँ। त्यतिबेला गोल हान्दा मेरो टाउको एउटा पोलमा लागेर ठोकियो। त्यसको ठोकाइपछि पनि मेरो कोचले मलाई ननिकालेर आजै मलाई नै राख्नुभएको थियो। यसले उनीहरूले मलाई खेलाडीको रूपमा कति मूल्याङ्कन गर्थे भन्ने देखाउँछ। म अझै त्यो दिनको सम्झना गर्छु। सम्भवतः म कहिल्यै त्यसलाई भुल्न सक्दिनँ। किन कि पोलमा ठोकिए पछि मेरो खेल्ने अवस्था राम्रो थिएन तर पनि मेरो त्यो ठाउँमा आवश्यकता छ भन्ने कोचले मलाई विश्वास गर्नु भएको थियो।

९. विद्यालयको ७५औँ वार्षिकोत्सवको अवसरमा विद्यार्थी, शिक्षक, अभिभावक, पूर्वविद्यार्थी र सम्पूर्ण विद्यालय परिवारका लागि तपाईंको शुभकामना तथा सन्देश के छ?

म भन्न चाहन्छु कि खेलकुद मानिसको जीवनमा धेरै महत्वपूर्ण हुन्छ र यदि विद्यार्थी कुनै खेलमा उत्कृष्ट बन्न चाहन्छ भने उसले आफ्ना बुबा-आमा र स्कुल प्रशासनबाट समर्थन पाउनु धेरै जरूरी हुन्छ। उसले हरेक अवसर पाउनुपर्छ। हाम्रो स्कुल ले विद्यार्थीहरूलाई विभिन्न खेलकुदमा संलग्न हुनको लागि प्लेटफर्म प्रदान गर्दै आएको छ र मलाई आशा छ कि यो आगामी वर्षहरूमा पनि जारी रहिरहने छ।

INTERVIEWED BY :
ANUSHKA KOIRALA*(11'A')*,
SHREEYABI RIMAL(11'A')

“सबैभन्दा ठूलो कमाइ आर्थिक होइन, पुरानी विद्यार्थीबाट पाइने सम्मान हो।”

- SHASHI KUMAR KARNA

FACES OF XAVIER'S

१. आउनुहोस् पहिलो प्रश्नबाट सुरु गरौं। जब हजुरले पहिलोपटक यहाँ काम सुरु गर्नुभयो, विद्यालयको आर्थिक अवस्था कस्तो थियो? अनि अहिलेको तुलनामा हिसाब-किताब, कागजी काम र समग्र प्रणालीमा कत्तिको फरक आएको छ?

त्यो बेला र अहिलेको समयमा धेरै ठूलो फरक छ। म अक्टोबर २००३ मा आउँदा हाम्रा वरिष्ठ लेखापाल श्री गर्जमान सुब्बा ज्यूबाट ह्यान्डओभर लिएको थिएँ। त्यतिखेर हामीले अर्ध-म्यानुअल र अर्ध-कम्प्युटरकृत प्रणाली प्रयोग गर्थ्यौं, जसमा आधारभूत डाटाबेस सफ्टवेयर थियो। वर्षौंसँगै प्रविधिमा परिवर्तन आउँदा धेरै कुराहरू परिवर्तन भए। आज सबै कुरा धेरै कम्प्युटरकृत, डिजिटल र व्यवस्थित भइसकेको छ। अहिले पनि केही म्यानुअल रेकर्डहरू राखिन्छन्, तर अटोमेसनले गर्दा हाम्रो काम धेरै सजिलो र छिटो भएको छ। म २००३ मा आउँदा यहाँ लगभग ८०० विद्यार्थी थिए। आज यस विद्यालयमा करिब २,५०० विद्यार्थी अध्ययनरत छन्।



२. यी धेरै वर्षहरूमा, हजुरले सम्हाल्नुभएको कुनै त्यस्तो आर्थिक निर्णय वा योजना छ, जसलाई सम्झिँदा आज पनि मनमा गर्व महसुस हुन्छ?

वित्तीय व्यवस्थापनले सधैं नयाँ अवसर र जिम्मेवारीहरू लिएर आउँछ। प्रत्येक वर्ष हामी नयाँ आर्थिक योजना, बजेट र पूर्वाधार निर्माणका लक्ष्यहरूमा काम गर्छौं। योजना गरिएका प्रत्येक कामहरू सफलतापूर्वक सम्पन्न हुँदा ठूलो गर्वको महसुस हुन्छ।



जब कुनै योजना सहज रूपमा अघि बढेर आफ्नो उद्देश्य पूरा गर्छ, त्यसले हरेक वर्ष ठूलो सन्तुष्टि दिन्छ।

३. विद्यालयको आर्थिक काम-काजबारे शिक्षक, अभिभावक वा विद्यार्थीहरूले नसोचेको वा ध्यान नदिएको, तर हजुरले धेरै ध्यान दिनुपर्ने कुनै पक्ष छ?

बाहिरका मानिसहरू प्रायः लेखा शाखाले शुल्क लिने र तलब बाँड्ने काम मात्र गर्छ भन्ने सोच्छन्। तर फाइनान्स डिपार्टमेन्ट कुनै पनि संस्थाको मेरुदण्ड हो—यसको असर प्रत्यक्ष रूपमा नदेखिए पनि सबै ठाउँमा परिरहेको हुन्छ। हामी विद्यालयलाई निरन्तर सञ्चालनमा राख्न दैनिक कार्यहरू व्यवस्थापन गर्छौं: उपयोगिता बिलहरू (पानी, बिजुली, इन्टरनेट आदि), नगरपालिका र सरकारी कार्यालयहरूसँगको समन्वय, आन्तरिक प्रतिवेदन, लेखापरीक्षण (अडिट) र कर चुक्ता, विद्यालयका अप्रत्याशित आवश्यकताहरूका लागि बजेट व्यवस्थापन

४. २४ वर्षको लामो अवधिमा, हजुरले हिसाब मिलाउनुपरेको सबैभन्दा अनौठो वा नसोचेको खर्च वा योजना के थियो?

हरेक नयाँ ठूला योजना सुरुमा अनौठै लाग्छन्। उदाहरणका लागि, इन्डोर हल बनाउने कुरा हाम्रो सुरुको ८ देखि १० वर्षको योजनामा थिएन, तर जब व्यवस्थापनले यसको आवश्यकता महसुस गर्यो, हामीले बजेट र वित्तीय योजना बनायौं। पछाडि फर्केर हेर्दा कहिलेकाहीं अचम्म लाग्छ, 'हामीले त्यति सीमित बजेटमा यत्रा ठूला निर्माण कार्यहरू कसरी सम्पन्न गर्यौं होला?' ती महत्वाकांक्षी योजनाहरूलाई आर्थिक रूपमा सफल बनाउनु सधैं एउटा फलदायी चुनौती हुन्छ।

५. हजुरको सामान्य दिनचर्या कस्तो हुन्छ, र अभिभावकको असन्तुष्टि वा हिसाब-किताबका गल्ती जस्ता चुनौतीहरूलाई कसरी सम्हाल्नुहुन्छ?

मेरो दिनचर्या सधैं उस्तै रहँदै आएको छ। बिहान ८:३० बजे आउने र अपराह्न ढिलासम्म काम गर्ने। दिनभरि विद्यार्थीको शुल्क कारोबार, शिक्षकहरूलाई सहयोग, विभिन्न निकायहरूसँग समन्वय, नगरपालिकाका बिलहरू बुझाउने र आर्थिक प्रतिवेदनहरू तयार पार्ने काम हुन्छ। कहिलेकाहीँ बैंकको प्राविधिक समस्याका कारण शुल्क समयमा नमिल्दा अभिभावकहरू आक्रोशित भएर आउनुहुन्छ। यस्तो बेला तीन पक्ष जोडिएका हुन्छन्: बैंक, विद्यालय र अभिभावक। हामी उहाँहरूसँग धैर्यपूर्वक बसेर समस्या कहाँ भयो खोज्छौं र स्पष्ट रूपमा सम्झाउँछौं। कुरा बुझेपछि उहाँहरूको असन्तुष्टि आफैं शान्त हुन्छ। सुरुका दिनमा गल्ती भएर गोजीबाट पैसा तिर्नुपर्ला कि भन्ने अलि डर लाग्थ्यो। तर २४ वर्षको अनुभवले आत्मविश्वास बढाएको छ। अहिलेका आधुनिक डिजिटल प्रणालीले गल्तीहरू एकदमै कम गराउँछन्, त्यसैले ती सुरुवाती डरहरू अब कथा भइसकेका छन्।

६.यदि भोलि हजुरको ठाउँमा वा सहयोगका लागि कुनै नयाँ कर्मचारी वा लेखापाल आउनुभयो भने, उहाँलाई विद्यालयको प्रणालीमा ढाल्न कसरी सहयोग गर्नुहुन्छ?

पुराना कर्मचारीको नाताले नयाँ आउने साथीलाई स्वागत गर्नु र सिकाउनु हाम्रो कर्तव्य हो। आउने बित्तिकै कसैले सबै कुरा जान्दैन। उहाँसँग समन्वय गरेर यहाँको नियम, संस्कृति र एकाउन्टिङ सिस्टम बुझाइदिनुपर्छ र उहाँ आत्मनिर्भर नभएसम्म सहयोग गर्नुपर्छ।

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७. यहाँ २४ वर्ष बिताइसक्दा, सुरुका दिनको तुलनामा हजुरको व्यक्तित्वमा कस्तो परिवर्तन आयो? लेखा बाहेक अरू के-के सिक्नुभयो?

म यहाँ आउँदा एकदमै युवा थिएँ र संस्थागत अनुभव थिएन। वर्षौंसँगै हरेक दिन सिक्दै गएँ। २४ वर्षपछि, १००% पूर्ण त कोही पनि हुँदैन, तर मैले धेरै अनुभव र आत्मविश्वास हासिल गरेको छु। सुरुका दिनमा हुने डर अब पूर्ण रूपमा हराइसकेको छ। हिसाब-किताब बाहेक, यहाँको कामले मलाई टिमवर्क, आपसी सम्मान र मित्रताको महत्व सिकाएको छ। कार्यसमयपछि शिक्षक, प्रशासनिक कर्मचारी र सहयोगी साथीहरू सबै एउटै परिवारजस्तै बसेर सुख-दुःखका कुरा गर्छौं र एकअर्कालाई सहयोग गर्छौं।

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८. यस विद्यालयमा बिताएका समयहरूमा हजुरको लागि सबैभन्दा अविस्मरणीय वा मन छुने अनुभव कुन हो?

सबैभन्दा ठूलो कमाई आर्थिक होइन—पुराना विद्यार्थीहरूबाट पाइने सम्मान हो। जब १५-२० वर्षअघि पढेर गएका विद्यार्थीहरू विद्यालयमा फर्कन्छन्, बाटोमा भेटेर "शशी सर, नमस्ते! म त अहिले डाक्टर भएँ" वा "म राम्रो ठाउँमा काम गर्दैछु" भन्छन्—त्यतिखेर महसुस हुने गर्वको सीमा नै हुँदैन। यस्तो माया र सम्मान अरू कर्पोरेट जागिरहरूमा पाउन गाह्रो हुन्छ। विद्यालयमा काम गर्नुको सबैभन्दा ठूलो खुसी नै यही हो।

९. विद्यालयले आफ्नो ७५औं वार्षिकोत्सव मनाइरहँदा हजुर के सन्देश दिन चाहनुहुन्छ, र विद्यालयको भविष्य कसरी देख्नुहुन्छ?

७५ वर्ष पूरा गरेको ऐतिहासिक संस्थामा काम गर्न पाउनु ठूलो कुरा हो। मलाई २४ वर्षसम्म काम गर्ने मौका दिएकोमा म विद्यालयप्रति पूर्ण रूपमा आभारी छु। सबै शिक्षक, कर्मचारी र विद्यार्थीहरूलाई मेरो सन्देश छ—मानदारी, समर्पण र एकताका साथ काम गर्नुहोस्। विद्यालयको उज्ज्वल भविष्यका लागि हामी समय र प्रविधिसँगै बदलिनुपर्छ। आजको प्रविधि १० वर्षअघिको भन्दा धेरै अगाडि बढिसकेको छ। यदि हामी समयसँगै अघि बढेनौं भने समयले हामीलाई पछाडि छाडिदिन्छ। जो समयको तालसँगै अघि बढ्छन्, उनीहरू सधैं सफल र खुसी रहन्छन्।

INTERVIEWED BY :
SHREEYABI RIMAL *(11'A')*,
ANUSH SHRESTHA(11'A')

"सङ्घर्ष, सहारा र नयाँ गोरेटो" - DHANAMAYA MAHARJAN

१. दिदी तपाईको परिचय दिनु न ।

मेरो नाम धनमाया महर्जन हो। मेरो घर हरिसिद्धि हो। मेरा दुईटी छोरीहरू छन्। म यो स्कुल मा करिब २३/२४ वर्ष अधिदेखि छु। म यो स्कुल को सहयोगी कर्मचारीको रूपमा कार्यरत छु।

२. दिदी तपाईको बाल्यकालको बारेमा भन्नुहोस् न ।

माइतीमा मेरो बुबा पूर्ण राजभण्डारी डकर्मीको काम गर्नुहुन्थ्यो। म सानै हुँदा बुबा बित्नुभयो। हामी परिवारमा दुई जना दिदीहरू हुनुहुन्थ्यो। एकजना बहिनी र एउटा भाइ गरी जम्मा पाँचजना छोराछोरी थियौँ। मेरो आमा धनमाया राजभण्डारी हुनुहुन्थ्यो। आमाले घरमा सामान्य खेती-किसानी गरेर जसो तसो हामीलाई हुर्काउनु भयो। हामी छोराछोरीले जसोतसो गरेर सरकारी विद्यालयमा पढ्न त पायौँ। तर त्यही पनि विद्यालयमा पढाइको वातावरण त्यति राम्रो थिएन। त्यसमा पनि पढाइ नै छोडेर घरको काममा सहयोग गर्न त्यो बेलाको मेरो बाध्यता थियो। मलाई पढ्न खुब मन लाग्थ्यो तर भनेजति मैले पढ्न पाइनँ। त्यसमा मलाई अहिले पनि निकै दुःख लाग्छ।



३. तपाईको पारिवारिक जीवनबारे भन्नुहोस् न ।

विवाह गरेर नख्खुमा आएपछि छोरीहरू सविता र सविना जन्मिए। मेरा श्रीमान्को निधन हुँदा मेरा छोरीहरू सानै थिए। मेरा आफ्ना भन्ने र सहयोग गर्ने कोही थिएनन्। एक्लै मेलापात बनिबुतो गर्दै छोरीहरू र म आफू बाँच्यौँ। सहारा केही नपाउँदा म एक्लै भक्कानिएर रुन्थेँ। सहयोगी कोही थिएन। खै, कसरी हो बाँचियो। बाबु मलाई निकै गाह्रो भएको थियो। धेरै दुःख पाइयो। मैले त्यो बेलामा बालुवाका बोरा पनि बोकेँ। गिट्टी पनि कुटेँ। सानातिना मजुदुरी त कति हो कति, गरियो नि।



४. तपाईं यो स्कुल मा कसरी आउनुभयो ?

मलाई निकै गाह्रो भएको थियो। नानीहरूलाई हुर्काउन काम नखोजी भएको थिएन। राम्रो काम पाउन मैले खासै केही पढेको नै थिएन। मजदुरी नै गर्नुपर्ने थियो। एकदिन म यो स्कुल को गेटको अगाडि बसिरहेकी थिएँ। काम कता पाइएला भनेर सोच्दै थिएँ। त्यसै बेला त्यावकै कृष्ण दाईसँग भेट भयो। काम मिलाइदिन्छु भनेर एकजना दाईले यो स्कुल का एकजना सरसँग भेट गराइदिनुभयो। त्यसरी मैले यो स्कुल मा काम पाएँ। साह्रै दुःख पाएको बेलामा मलाई सहयोग गरिदिनुभएकोमा म उहाँहरूलाई धन्यवाद व्यक्त गर्छु।

५. तपाईं खाली समयमा के गर्न मन पराउनुहुन्छ ?

काम नभएर खाली बसेको बेला मलाई लुगाहरू बुन्न मन पर्छ। स्वेटर, गलबन्दीजस्ता लुगा बुन्ने गर्दछु। लुगा बुन्दा राम्रा राम्रा बुट्टाहरू निकाल्न निक्कै मनपर्छ। अहिले यो हातको समस्याले गर्दा गाह्रो चाँही भएको छ। तर पनि बुन्न चाँही बुनिरहेको छु।

६. तपाईको सबैभन्दा खुशीको क्षण कुन होला ?

घरमा आएपछि छोरीहरू सविता र सविना जन्मिए। नानीहरू जन्मेको बेला हामी धेरै नै खुशी थियौँ। ती नानीहरू नै मेरो जीवन हुन्। नानीहरूसँग समय बिताउन पाउँदा मलाई निक्कै नै खुशी लाग्छ। अहिले त तिनीहरू आ-आफ्नै काममा व्यस्त भइरहन्छन्। तिनीहरू फुर्सद भएको समयमा उनीहरूसँग बोल्न र रमाउन पाउँदा त्यो समय मेरो लागि सबैभन्दा खुसीको समय हो जस्तो लाग्छ।

७. यो विद्यालयको तपाईंलाई मन परेको पक्ष के होला ?

अलि अस्ति नै, चैत्रमा म घर फर्कदै थिएँ। त्यही बेला बाइक एक्सिडेन्ट भएर मेरा औंलाहरू छिनिएको थिए। त्यो बेला त मेरो जीवन सकिएजस्तो लागेको थियो। मैले काम गर्न छोड्नुपर्ला अनि त्यसैँग आत्मनिर्भरता गुमाउनुपर्ला र छोरीहरू माथि निर्भर रहने एउटी बुढी आइमाई हुनुपर्ला जस्तो लागेको थियो। तर धन्न मेरो अपाङ्गताबारे केही पनि नराम्रो नसोचेर यहाँको व्यवस्थापन पक्षले मलाई यो स्कुल मा काम गर्न पुनः निरन्तरता दिनुभयो। मलाई यो स्कुल बारे मन पर्ने पक्ष यही हो कि यहाँका स्टाफहरूलाई दुःख परेको समयमा यो स्कुल को व्यवस्थापन पक्षले सधैँ सहयोग नै गरेको पाएको छु। यस्ता सहयोगप्रति म व्यक्तिगत रूपमा असाध्यै आभारी पनि छु।

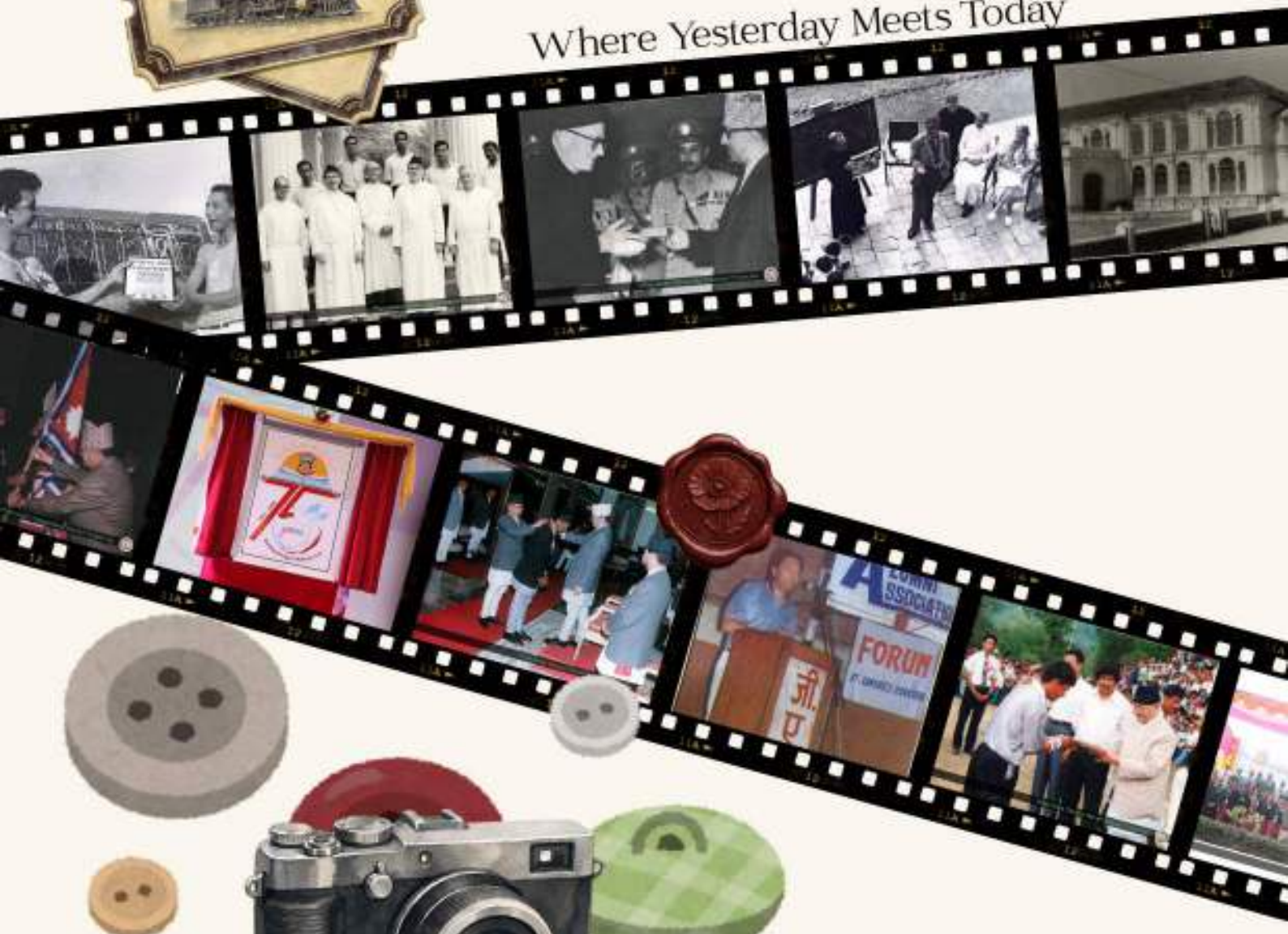
८. यहाँका विद्यार्थीहरूलाई के सन्देश दिन चाहनुहुन्छ ?

मेरो जीवनको सबैभन्दा ठुलो गल्ती गरेको भन्नु नै मैले इच्छा गरे पनि रामरी नपढ्नु हो। त्यो बेलाको स्कुलहरूका सीमित स्रोत साधन र मेरो आफ्नो मन भए पनि पढ्न पाइएन। काश! मैले त्यो बेला अझ जिद्दी गरेर पढेको भए वा त्यति बेला मैले वातावरण पाएको भए म अहिले कुनै ठुलो मान्छे हुन्थेँ होला। हुन त म अहिले सन्तुष्ट नै छु, तर पनि तिमीहरूसँग चाँही त्यो अवसर छ। यसलाई न गुमाउनु है। पढिलेखी ठुलो मान्छे हुनु है।

INTERVIEWED BY :
NIKHLESH SHARMA(11'A'),
SANTULAN BHATTARAI(11'A')

Different years, Same Spirit

Where Yesterday Meets Today



Same Place

library



infrastructure



scout



New Memories











Once a Memory

Sports Day



Parents' Night



Investiture Ceremony



Now a Legacy









Across Generations

One-Act plays



school uniforms



Assemblies



One Xaverian Spirit







LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Today, as we celebrate seventy five years of St. Xavier's, we stand at a beautiful moment in our history—a moment of gratitude for the past, celebration of the present, and, above all, hope for the future. For seventy five years, this institution has been more than a school. It has been a place where minds have been enlightened, hearts have been formed, character has been shaped, and lives have been inspired. Generations of Jesuits, teachers, staff, parents and students have contributed to this remarkable journey. We are the beneficiaries of their sacrifices, dreams and dedication.

But seventy-five years is not a destination. It is a new beginning. The question before us is not simply, "What has St. Xavier's achieved?" but rather, "What kind of St. Xavier's do we want to become in the next tenty five , fifty and seventy five years?"

The world our children will inherit is changing rapidly. Artificial intelligence, technology, global challenges, environmental concerns and changing human relationships will shape their future in ways we cannot fully predict today. Therefore, our responsibility is not merely to prepare students to succeed in the world as it is, but to prepare them to create the world as it ought to be. Our vision must be to form young people who are intellectually excellent, emotionally mature, spiritually grounded, socially responsible and courageous enough to stand for what is right. As a Jesuit school, we must continue to educate not only for excellence, but for service; not only for success, but for significance; not only for careers, but for life. We must nurture young people who can ask difficult questions, think creatively, embrace diversity, care for the vulnerable, protect our common home and use their talents for the greater good. Our future will demand innovation without losing our identity, technology without losing our humanity, and progress without losing our values. As we begin the next chapter, let us dream bigger, work together and move forward with courage. Let us make St. Xavier's a school where every child feels valued, every teacher feels inspired, and every student discovers not only what they can become, but whom they can serve.

May the next seventy five years be a journey from legacy to possibility, from tradition to transformation, and from success to service. Let us look to the future with confidence, because the best chapters of St. Xavier's story may still be waiting to be written. Together, let us build a St. Xavier's that does not simply prepare students for the future—but helps shape the future.

Fr Leo Alphonse Raj, S.J.
Principal
St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel

The Journey Continues
— Vision for the Upcoming Years

भविस्या मा जेसुइट संस्था सामाजिक अभियंता बनेरा सच्चो अर्थ समाज समर्पित हुनछ

सुधाकर ढुंगाना
एसएक्सजे

As moderator of the Art Club, I have had the privilege of witnessing the creativity, camaraderie, and growth that clubs inspire. I hope Xavier's continues to uphold this cherished legacy, while its timeless values remain woven into the students' journey, shaping not only their achievements, but the people they become.

Tersang Lama
SXJ

On the pathway to shaping the lives of young generations!

Adultya Lama Chhetri
SXJ

Excellence in acadamics backed up by Jesuit values, in all walks of life... today, tomorrow and forever!

Gita Maskey
SXJ

Dear Xaverians,
Please, Always uphold the values of an exemplary xaverian. Give your best in everything you do and challange yourself. It's not about being better than others, it's about being the best version of yourself. You can refer to this in your future endeavours. Academic success matters, but being an example of virtue is more important. Respect everyone and always be ready to help those in need.

Mrs Archana Shah
SXJ

As St. Xavier's steps into the years ahead, I hope it continues to cherish and uphold the rich cultural legacy that has shaped generations, while embracing innovation and evolving with the changing times.

Looking back, I will always be grateful that I chose to be a part of this remarkable institution and its enduring legacy.

Shreeyabi Rimal
11'A', SXJ

Shaping the tomorrows of the present generation!

Sunita Sharma Khadka
SXJ

Transforming digital connections with radical compassion... for Gen-Z, Gen-α, Gen-β and the like.

Hemanju Rai
SXJ

St. Xavier's will continue inspiring students and transforming lives through education, values, and dedicated service.

Surya P. Bhattarai
AsSt. Co-ordinator, SXJ

I hope that St. Xavier's continues to create individuals that are able to work towards a better future of the world.

Palistha Shrestha,
11'A', SXJ

Rooted in faith, growing through service, and reaching across the world.
The Jesuit spirit continues to flourish, carrying its legacy from generation to generation.



Design concept:
Mrs Hemanju Rai