

The Word (LOGOS) Becomes God (Deus): Emmanuel, God with Us

Dear Friends,

“In the beginning was the Word.... The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us”, John 1:1&14. God my friends, is the Word. Spoken, written, inscribed, etched, printed ... in all its myriad forms, in all its munificence. And the temple, where Words are cloistered, where words are revered and respectfully sustained for generations to relate to, to seek their resurrection in, is the library. And it is to this library that I bow as I wish you all the Greetings of the Seasons. As I present to you this Christmas volume of Goethals Newsletter with the articles on Libraries, I bow to the Word, for I bow to the Lord.

Libraries have been destroyed - burnt, looted and vandalised down the ages. The most notable of course followed Julius Caesar's sacking of Alexandria and the Nazi purge during the reign of the Third Reich. Closer home, the Nalanda University Complex was sacked by invaders, which is seen by many as a milestone in the decline of Buddhism in India. Similarly, the complete annihilation of the Maya Codices of Yucatán, or the systematic destruction of the Imperial library of Constantinople had repercussions that were felt long after the physical wounds had healed. The Royal library of the Kings of Burma was looted, and then burnt down. Such instances of acts against humanity, are innumerable, the latest being the burning down of the library of Mosul in Iraq, where more than eight thousand rare books and manuscripts were torched in 2015.

However, the dark forces have never been successful. They have succeeded in burning the books, often obliterating knowledge and wisdom gained over centuries, but have never triumphed over man's single-minded devotion to the written word, his search for the divine truth, his passion for knowledge. A passion, that has ensured the rise of the phoenix, from the very embers of the books that have been



burnt, every time, with unfailing, religious regularity. For books may be temporal, but the knowledge that they contain is forever, eternal and infinite even - a truism that man has not only known down the ages, but have also cherished.

We live in an era where the rise of artificial intelligence (AI) and the digital dominance on all frontiers is changing the very way we research, relate to and imbibe knowledge. Newspapers, books, journals and printed materials are fast becoming obsolete as humanity's knowledge base makes the transition to the cloud. It is my honour and privilege to be here in these momentous times as we witness forces, that are often way beyond our control, work to create a New Reading Order. The entire collection that was burnt in Alexandria can today be compressed into a hard drive and carried to safety, should matters come to such a pass.

However, that hard drive is also vulnerable to rogue attacks the kinds of which were beyond man's comprehension till a few years back.

And this is precisely what I consider a challenge. A challenge to circumnavigate the digital divide, with feet firmly on the precincts of the library, the storehouse of printed books of yore.

Today, as I write this piece, I am delighted by the honour and the opportunity that has been bestowed upon me. The opportunity to serve not only the written word, but to ensure their well-being, legacies as they are for the times to come.

I thank the contributors of the articles to this special Christmas Volume.

Happy Reading.

May God be the light in your Kindle and the Word be the enlightenment that you seek from the books.

Xavier Savarimuthu, SJ

Editor and Assistant Director



The Goethals Indian Library and Research Society (GILRS)



Fr. J. Felix Raj, SJ

Director, GILRS

St. Xavier's, Kolkata houses a treasure, which was inherited by the Jesuit Fathers in 1908 from the then Archbishop of Calcutta, Paul Goethals, S.J. A catalogue prepared by Archbishop Goethals in 1898 reveals the range and special interests of the collector: Ancient India; the Portuguese in India; the Dutch; the French; the Muhamedan period; the British period; Gazetteers; the States; the Tribes; Archaeology; the Arts; Religions; Philosophy; Indology; natural history; travels and so on.

The travels and travellers section dating from the 17th century and in several languages has been described by specialists as unique. Another noteworthy treasure is the six large volumes of Oriental Scenery each containing 24 views, colour engravings by Thomas and William Daniell, from March 1, 1795 to June 1, 1803. There are also a number of curios, marble Buddha statues and an exquisite dagger collection.

Among outstanding assets of the library is a rich collection of hard bound Eastern periodicals reaching back to their founding days. The list includes Bengal Past and Present (from July 1907), The Calcutta Review (158 volumes); Modern Review (1907-1978); Light of the East (complete series, October 1922 - December 1946) and Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal (from Volume 1, 1832). In the case of some newspapers and periodicals the series in this library are more complete than in the publications' offices!

We have made this treasure now more easily accessible to research scholars, who are most worthy of its inheritance. To help the users, the Goethals library has been modernized in its facilities. A scientific cataloguing of the books, periodicals

and plates has been done. Computerization process is on. The library has gone on line via Internet. It has now been designated as a Research and Reference Centre. The library has been completely renovated.

About 50 manuscripts of the Bengal Mission historian, Fr. H. Hosten, are stored, besides a few of Fr. W. Wallace and the pioneering educationist, Brahmabandhav Upadhyay. A former Deputy Librarian of the National Library, Calcutta, Mr. Avinash Lal, has listed in this collection the titles published before 1799. They total 1,000, an extraordinary number when a collection of the size and status of the National Library is about 1,700.

Mr. Lal showed some of the entries in his list to the former Librarian of the National Library, Mr. Ashim Dasgupta, who was "overwhelmed". Even in his special subject, Mr. Dasgupta pointed out that he never knew these titles were available. A special feature of the Goethals Library at St. Xavier's is the rarity of the collection and the diversity of the languages found.

A Directory has been published to provide an overview of the library to its users and the Directory is in the web-site. A list of some selected books, plates, periodicals and documents in the collection of the library is also being provided for the benefit of researchers and the serious readers. A quarterly newsletter is being published. We regularly organise exhibitions, seminars and symposiums. We assist researchers who use our library facilities and who ask for research materials online.

We want to continue the great and rich tradition of scholarly Jesuits like Frs. Johanns and Dandoy (Hinduism), Courtois (Islam), Lievens (Tribal Rights), P. Fallon and Robert Antoine (Indology). We welcome research students and scholars to make use of the library. We are at their service to encourage and support their scholarly work.

We hope the library serves its purpose of disseminating knowledge and providing the information for your needs. This alone makes our every effort worthwhile. ■

Fr. Verstraeten Central Library, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata



Fr. Xavier Savarimuthu, SJ.

Editor and Assistant Director, GILRS

*“One best book is equal to hundred good friends
but one good friend is equal to a library.”*

— Dr.A. P. J. Abdul Kalam.

*Fr. Verstraeten Central Library is a live example of this
as it provides a user-friendly atmosphere for its
esteemed academic fraternity with an enriched collection of printed
resources as well as non-print / e-resources.*



St. Xavier's College had five different libraries before January, 2009 as 1. Arts & science lending library, 2. B.Com lending library, 3. Eco, Pol. Sc. & Sociology lending library, 4. Arts & science reading room, 5. B.Com reading room. All these five libraries were merged into one integrated corpus and started functioning as a centralized system since January 16, 2009. The readers had limited and restricted access to library documents earlier. They had to cross so many hurdles to get the required book or periodical at right time in old decentralized library system.

But the new centralized system is open-access, where the readers find out their required books from the library shelves. Several constraints to timely access of library

documents have now been eradicated and, as a result, the use of library documents has enhanced to a large extent in this new Centralized open access system. As the college was rewarded with Centre of Potential Excellence (CPE) status, a new project entitled “Bibliographic Description Conversion and Standardization of Documents” was installed under the financial support from University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi in CPE scheme since January, 2008.

On 2nd July 2015 the new block of central library was renamed as Fr. Verstraeten Central Library. Fr. Verstraeten Central Library of St. Xavier's College is a hub of academic and research activities. The library has a collection of old and rare



books, valuable reference books, important journals, educational CDs and DVDs for the use of students, staff and special visitors and guests. The membership of the Library is open to administrators, faculty members, research scholars, students and support staff of the College.

There are two state-of-the-art reading rooms providing absolute study ambiance to 200 students. The reading rooms remain open from 7.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. and the lending sections function from 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. except Sundays and college holidays. A student can borrow at most four books at a time for fourteen days, which is further renewable (on line) once for next fourteen days. The library provides services to its users through an automated mode by using Open Source ILMS Koha (ver.16.05) software. The services rendered by the Central Library cover all the departments of the college. Circulation system is based on RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) technology. Self-circulation facility is also available with the help of RFID enabled kiosk. Students can re-issue their books through online, know their book borrowing status, lending book overdue fine etc. by visiting Central Library website (<http://www.sxccal.edu/library/SXC-MyLibrary.htm>). Book reservation facility and new book suggestion are newly added best practices of the central library.

The catalogue-search and circulation systems are fully automated at present. Search for any document/topic can be made through a Single Window Search facility. User can now search, download and use the library resources 24x7 from their home, using keywords, authors or titles across St. Xavier's College library database of 145,000+ subscribed e-Books; 8,800+ full text Journals and Magazines; 13,600+ indexed and abstracted journals; 7,700+ peer reviewed Journals that contain millions of articles from national and international peer reviewed Journals. CCTV surveillance and RFID enabled gate antenna system are there as security measures. Besides, there is an E-Resource Access Section in the library equipped with Wi-Fi facility. The facilities of semester question paper (soft copy), e-books, e-journals (Sage) and e-databases (ProwessIQ, Indiatat) are also

accessible from e-resource access section. Some of the most common e-books are from Oxford, Pearson and Gale Virtual Reference Library. Central Library is also a member of National Digital Library (NDL), INFLIBNET-NLIST and DELNET from which users can access e-resources. The library maintains a book-bank facility for rural and financially challenged students. The photocopy facility is available in the library. The Central Library provides current academic/secular details to the readers through newspapers (English=9, Bengali=5, Hindi=2), announcement posters and newsletters etc. Students'/faculty members' feedback facility is also available online for improving our library service.

Fr. Verstraeten Central Library E-Resource Centre for Advanced Studies and Research, a newly developed state-of-the-art E-Resource Library which is the brain child of Fr. Xavier Savarimuthu, the Assistant Director, had been inaugurated with the cutting of ribbons by the Vice-Chancellor of St. Xavier's University and Principal of St. Xavier's College Rev. Fr. Dr. John Felix Raj and Dr. Dominic Savio on 21st Aug'2017. The fifty-seater facility includes St. Xavier's Central Library E-Book System for accessing e-resources via college intranet with the help of tabs, smart phones, desktop computers and other devices. This is available for the researchers and advanced learners of Academic fraternity of St. Xavier's College. ■

Holdings	Number
Total Printed Books	77,215+
Printed Periodicals (Journals & Magazines)	141
CD/DVD	902
Online Databases	
(Prowess, INDIASTAT, Economic Outlook)	03
E-Journals (INFLIBNET-NLIST) accessible	6,000+
E-Books (INFLIBNET-NLIST) accessible	31,35,000+
E-Journals (DELNET) accessible	5,400+
On-line Journal (Sage Publications)	28
E-Resource Library: E-Books accessible from e-resource library. (e-books of Pearson, Oxford, Gale Virtual Reference Library and others)	2,344
Daily News Papers	16

Ramakrishna Mission's Contribution in Library Development



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INTRODUCTION

It is well known that after the death of Thakur Sri Ramakrishna in Dakshineswar, Kolkata, the Ramakrishna Math was founded as a new Monastic order in 1886 and the Ramakrishna Mission was formed as a Religious Humanitarian Organization by Swami Vivekananda on 1st May, 1897.

The motto of the mission is aimed for one's own salvation and for the welfare of the world (*Atmano mokshartham jagat hitaya cha आत्मनो मोक्षार्थं जगद्धिताय च.*). The mission does various activities covering the key areas like Education, Health care, Cultural

activities, Rural uplift, Tribal welfare, Youth movement etc. The different centers of Math and Mission since their inception have a unique feature of promoting education and serving the needy people. The different schools, colleges and Institutes, set up thereafter, have the unique library facilities as it is universally accepted as the most integral part of knowledge promotion for the betterment of the society.

Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture Library

Since its foundation in 1941 with a collection of about 33,000 books from Dr. Barid Baran Mukherjee, the Institute of Culture library in Kolkata has become one of the frontrunner public library in the country. Personal collections of great people like

Ramesh Chandra Majumdar (Historian), R K Dasgupta (former Director, National Library), Philosophers like Bimal Krishna Matilal, J N Mohanty etc were donated to enrich the library. The library at the current address of GolPark was developed under the leadership of Shri B.S. Keshavan, the first librarian of the National Library of India. It has three distinct sections: General Library, Children's Library and Junior Library. The General Library houses about 2,35,897 books; the Children's Library and Junior Library house 8,227 and 16,084 books respectively. Further, the library has a glorious collection of approximately 8000 rare books in paperbound format. Adapted to the need of the present knowledge based society, the online access is provided to an Open Library of free e-books. Also, access is provided upon request, to digitized versions of approximately 4000 rare books.

A few Mission Centers

The different centers of R K Math & Mission in the country and outside have the unique feature of library attachment either as a public library or as an integral part of the educational Institutes set up there in the same spirit of other global missionary societies.

The publication of Prabuddha Bharata, a world famous journal from the Advaita Ashrama, Mayavati was a historical achievement of the Math & Mission; but as time rolled on, the authority felt the need of shifting the printing & distribution work to Kolkata. Finally, with the land donation of Sri U N Deb, a schoolmate of Swami Vivekananda at Entally, the Ashrama has found additionally a Library-cum-Reading Room which became another popular facility for many people in Kolkata. It consists of about 20,000 books and makes available general books as well as text-books to the needy students.

Another milestone near the city of Kolkata is the District library, North 24 Parganas, which was established in 1956 under the management of the Ramakrishna Mission Boys' Home and is serving the students as well as general readers with a huge collection of about 52,503 books and many periodicals.

The Delhi center was founded in 1927 and the library cum reading room started functioning and became very popular. The main building came up in 1950 housing the library with reading rooms and the Dispensary. The other unique feature of the Delhi Mission center is the attachment of the University Students' Section Library. The University Students' section of the Library housed in a separate building was opened in November 1962 and is maintained with active cooperation of the University of Delhi. The striking feature of the users is that only the students of Delhi University are eligible to become members of this library and has now been regarded as the regular Undergraduate Text Book library of the Delhi University. Currently, the total no. of books available is about 4,570.

Ramakrishna Math, Hyderabad has a library named after Swami Vivekananda with an enviable collection of about 18,000 titles on wide topics and a good

collection of spiritual discourses on CDs in its General section. Audio lectures of Swami Ranganathananda and Dayananda Saraswati etc. are also available on cassettes and CDs.

Ramakrishna Mission center at Mumbai has the famous Shivananda Library at Khar (West). It was founded in 1925 by Swami Shivanandaji Maharaj, a direct disciple of Sri Ramakrishna and the 2nd President of Sri Ramakrishna Math & Mission. At present, the library has a rich collection of about 43,000 books on various facets of human intellect spanning over religion, mythology, science, arts, engineering etc.

It would be appropriate to mention on another library facility existing with the Vedanta Society of New York (VSNY) founded by Swami Vivekananda in New York in November 1894. In 1897, Swami Abhedananda, another disciple of Ramakrishna, became the president of the society until 1921. The Center maintains a Library and a Bookstall for the benefit of the members and the public and contains a large number of books and periodicals on Vedanta and other philosophical and religious systems of the world.

Thus, we see the presence of modern, state of the art library facility as a unique and compulsory component of most of the Ramakrishna Math & Mission centers serving the common people with diverse fields of interest. To conclude, let us remind all, in an age of decreasing footfall in every library centers, the right spirit as expressed by Frank Zappa: "If you want to get laid, go to college. If you want an education, go to the library." ■





Servant Leadership in Library Development

Dr. Charlotte Simpson-Veigas

Vice Principal Designate, Department of Education



The mission statement of the library, its goals and objectives need to be communicated to all its stakeholders in order for it to be a success. The aim of the library is to nurture and promote the reading habit, to provide effective guidance in the pursuit of learning and to assist its beneficiaries in developing knowledge and growth in wisdom.

All those who are involved in the library services are called to support each other's efforts in the process of providing service that is transparent, responsive and accountable to its beneficiaries and stakeholders.

Robert Greenleaf (1904-1990) who was well known for his essays on 'Servant-as-leader' states that the servant leader is the servant first. He/she is propelled by the conscious choice that he/she makes to serve others first. Servant leadership refers to a specific type of leadership style in which the leader who is directly responsible for the cohesion of the organization, carries out his/her duty effectively by serving the followers. Servant leadership is a term derived from many of God's servants in the Bible.

Servant leadership in library development exhorts all those who are vested with leadership roles in the library to lead-by-example. Such an exemplary leadership inspires and motivates the followers to willingly cooperate with their leader.

All those involved in the servant leadership in the library are called to the special vocation of mobilizing various library resources for the purpose of assisting others to grow and develop. Such servant leaders are continuously growing spiritually, intellectually and professionally so as to 'become all things unto all men' (1Cor 9:22). They are loyal custodians to all that is entrusted to them and are responsible for sharing the resources available to the rightful recipients at the appropriate times.

Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, the father of Library Sciences in India had propounded the 'five laws of Library Science' all of which have factored within them the elements of extending the reach of the library facilities to the maximum so that the end user, i.e. the reader is benefitted optimally. The needs of the reader must be given utmost priority at all times. Herein lies the importance of stewardship and integrity of services offered by a dynamic library.

All those for whom the library extends its services should be assisted to become spiritually healthier, intellectually wiser and emotionally sensitive such that they can exert their freedom in an autonomous, conscientious and independent way. It is imperative that the least privileged in the society, the deprived and the marginalized should be at the centre of the educational service extended by the library.

In Herman Hesse's novel, 'Journey to the East', one is confronted with the paradox of the servant leader. It can be said that all those who are specially chosen for library development are called to continuously grapple with this paradox of how effectively can the servant be the leader.

Servant leadership in library development is about giving time selflessly to extend the reach of the library facilities to all. It is about stewardship as in partnering with God in an apostolic mission of providing information, knowledge and importantly wisdom.

All library personnel need to orient or re-orient their attitude towards making their service a joyful activity- of loving service, of long arduous and sometimes thankless hours spent in tabling reports, classification and cataloguing, archiving, digitizing data and above all empowering people. This requires a paradigm shift, one in which people are over things. People are to be looked upon as opportunities for growth and not as casual

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Romit Beed

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Information is essential for societal progress and is a vital resource essential for existence in today's developing world. The change brought about by these emerging technologies has a significant effect on the way individuals live, function and evolve globally. Information technology based services accomplish the information requirements of these individuals at the correct time at the correct location to the correct individual. The advancement of printing technology played a pivotal role in spreading the library culture and bringing about a societal transformation. Over time, paper technology improved through the use of modern tools, printing books became affordable and libraries started stacking books in their collection. However, there still existed a major concern –the problem of brittleness of books. A substantial need was felt for developing better means for securely storing this vast repertoire of data leading to a greater involvement of Information and communication technology in this domain.

By the early 1990s, with the advancement of digital communication, it became a reality that different libraries started sharing resources. Librarians began accessing reference material and bibliographic data using a computer network. With the introduction of personal computers, laptops, local and wide area networks, smart phones and hand-held devices, libraries were able to utilize the benefits of computing technology and maximize the spread of information and resources, process administrative reports and electronically connect geographically dispersed libraries together at any time of the day.

According to the Webster's New Encyclopedia, "Information Technology is the collective term for various technologies involved in the processing and transmission of information by including telecommunications and microelectronics". Swift and efficient access to relevant information is of utmost importance for all libraries and is implemented through information processing, storage,

communication, automation and dissemination of vocal, pictorial, textual and numerical information. As majority of today's information are recorded in digital format, ICT has significantly helped librarians in performing their duties such as cataloguing, reference services, circulation management, serials control etc.

The major contributions of ICT in this field are:

- **Library management software:** These are designed to manage the varied library routines as an integrated tool constituting of modules meant to carry out specific tasks like cataloguing, statistics and acquisition. The popular software are CDS/ISIS, GLAS, ALICE for Windows, X-Lib and Strategic Library Automation Management (SLAM).
- **Online Public Access Catalogue:** This is an automated version of the catalogue or a database of the library assets accessed through intranet, extranet or the internet. Simplicity of use and space saving are the advantages of OPAC over traditional methods.
- **E-reference Services:** Services such as Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI), Current Awareness Services (CAS), Virtual Reference Desks and other reader guidance services can be effectively done using digital communication technology. SDI refers to tools and resources meant to alert users of new contents on specified topics whereas the objective of a current-awareness service is to notify users about new acquisitions in their libraries.
- **Library Co-operation and Resource Sharing:** A co-operative understanding amongst libraries towards a consolidated catalogue across libraries is possible with the help of ICT. In this way, libraries can generate and share bibliographic records in digital format. Users can share information of different types such as online databases, e-journals, e-books, government publications digitally through networked systems.
- **E-Libraries:** E-Libraries or Virtual Libraries are libraries that are not present in physical space but are available through computer networks. These libraries are developed in online mode with the information being recorded and stored in digital formats.
- **Online Tutorials:** Libraries can use digital data and the internet to train users or conduct information literacy workshops. Virtual tours can be provided online to make user education more suitable and within reach for all.
- **Institutional Repositories:** These are publications that are created within an institution such as thesis, dissertations, reports, conference papers and seminar papers. ICT enables better access to these resources, proper

maintenance and preservation of these resources.

- **Social Media Networks:** Social media networks like twitter, facebook and linkedIn are some interactive online services that are currently providing a communication platform for librarians and library users.

Twenty first century has seen a technological revolution in the world of information and communication technology where we have seen a shift from 'techno-illiterate' to 'techno-literate'. Latest trends and innovations based on information technology aim to provide better solutions and services to the users. Libraries these days can barely operate without computers and information technology; librarians have to be aware and updated of the latest technologies to survive the competition and provide quality service offerings. Information Technology assists in upgrading the standard of the library and it reduces the work-load of the staff. It makes the library work more efficient, easier, faster, cheaper and more effective. Remote access is a reality now through networked systems. Computerization helps in saving space as well as reducing the use of paper. However, poor funding for ICT setups, ever-changing software and hardware, unpredictable power connectivity, inadequate bandwidth and deficiency of technical IT knowledge of library staff are some of the challenges being faced. It is yearned, as the countries develop and make headway in the digital revolution, these shortcomings are overcome soon and the library users reap the maximum benefits. ■

- 👉 When TV came to my house. I forgot how to read books.
- 👉 When the car came to my doorstep, I forgot how to walk.
- 👉 When I got the mobile in my hand, I forgot how to write letters.
- 👉 When computer came to my house, I forgot spellings
- 👉 When the AC came to my house, I stopped going under the tree for cool breeze
- 👉 When I stayed in the city, I forgot the smell of mud.
- 👉 By dealing with banks and cards, I forgot the value of money.
- 👉 With the smell of perfume, I forgot the fragrance of fresh flowers.
- 👉 With the coming of fast food, I forgot to cook rice.
- 👉 Always running around, I forgot how to stop.
- 👉 And lastly when I got whatsapp, I forgot how to talk.



Library : Technological Revolution in Library



Prof. Bertram Da'Silva

Vice Principal, Department of Arts & Science

I'm from the paper generation. I like the phrase because I find myself now in a world that is becoming increasingly paperless. Which is good ecology conservation. But I tolerated Kindle for exactly one and a half books and when the novelty wore off I returned joyfully to the feel of books and the smell of books and the shape and size of books and so on.

And the wonderfully tactile experience of books began a long time ago in a meagrely stocked school library which parsimoniously doled out one book every other week. The frugality worked on the principle the less you have the more you want. I wonder if this paradigm has reversed today but the truth remains that we suffer a surfeit of too much of plenty.

Which is a good thing when we come to libraries. In the academy of higher education there can be no such thing as too much of a good thing.

Of course when I think libraries obvious pictures come to mind. The New York Public library. The British Museum. The Bodleian. And our very own Goethals, three floors stacked to the rafters on every conceivable subject, before it had to succumb to the pressures of expansion. It quiets and enriches the soul to sit in these kinds of reading rooms with books that seem to pile up everything that humanity has learned and discovered and understood. The eye stretches upward to an infinity of delight, tome after tome, hidden doors leading to dusty stairways opening into distant corridors. Like a pyramid of memory palaces architected into a single edifice of learning, simultaneously a physical place and an abstract idea. It builds character and deepens the soul.



A college without a library is like a piano without a player. It brings an institution to life.

A wheel without spokes will not be a wheel. A library is that kind of thing: a hub from which the spokes of an institution irradiate. It is the centre that holds things together so that they do not fall apart. And that is the role that a library plays.

As a physical place it is a repository of knowledge that brings people together and joins them by a common interest. To read and reference and push the horizons of knowledge.

Advancement of the mind requires conducive circumstance. The library functions to provide it. It's like a privileged club. A quiet contemplative space where the quotidian world is held at bay and where we might sit alone in the companionship of our minds and books and other likeminded souls.

So when we think of how a library contributes to the cause of education we can let our minds wander away from facts and data and usage and stock-taking and square feet and stacking facilities. For it is an idea made real. It is the tangible embodiment of an institution's ambition. It defines the institution and its character. It is a token of its achievement.

And then times change. Till we can barely keep abreast. Sometimes it feels like the future is already behind

us. The notion of a library must accordingly adapt to changing times. No longer can it afford to be a repository, a club, a noble idea. In a globalised world linked by the instant highways of the digital age, a library must evolve. If the

library is to continue to play a pivotal role in higher education it must embrace new technologies, challenges and opportunities. I see libraries of different institutions networking their resources to create a kind of giant library web accessible at every level regardless of university or college. The digital library is the future and I can well imagine the immense sweep and scope of a facility providing access to all the resources of the

institutions which are part of that network. There are also commercial implications which can be tapped and exploited to run and foster the library network. Given the number of potential users, such a network can offer capacity for product promotion. The possibilities are infinite. Just like life itself.

And of course that is the brave new world we make. And rightly so. But I cannot forget the joy of a book in the hand, the pages curling with time, the edges fraying. And the quiet cathedral tones of a reading room full of light and shadows with heads bent over books amid the whisper of pencils scribbling on paper. ■



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interruptions to a daily schedule. Henri Nouwen in his work, "Out of Solitude", refers to this as being called to a greater conversion in life. Contextualizing this statement to the circumstances of a library it can be said that library personnel need to recognize and be convinced of the fact that sudden happenings of the everyday life of the library, the serpentine queues at the copier machines, the endless flow of students and their never ending queries, the continuous placing and replacing of books on the library shelves, the cataloguing and the stockpiling are not disturbing interruptions to be readily avoided in the daily routine but a way in which God prepares us to realize our oneness with him.

In conclusion it may be said that the servant leader in the library should plan as though he/she will live for a century but live as though he/she is leaving today. The servant leader admits that there is always more to learn. This thirst for excellence, 'Magis', 'the more', 'the better' expresses itself in a commitment to life-long learning.

Life-long learning makes an impact on the legacy that the servant leader leaves behind. In desiring to serve others joyfully, in utilizing time intentionally for the growth and wellbeing of self and others, by prioritizing people's needs over material positions and momentary gains and above all by walking in the presence of the Divine, the library personnel in the spirit of a true servant leader weaves a legacy through the delicate fabric of providing library services for all. ■

New Arrivals

1. **A Hundred Years of Catholic Emancipation (1829-1929)** by Gwynn, Denis, Longmans, Green and Co. Ltd., London, 1929.
2. **Planning Perspectives of the Western Zone** by S. Adiseshiah, Malcolm, Lancer International Central, New Delhi, 1989.
3. **Western Germany** by Grosser, Alfred, George Allen & Unwin Ltd., U.S.A, 1955.
4. **Annals of an Abiding Liberal** by Galbraith, Kenneth John, Clarion Books, Delhi, 1980.
5. **Luke the Theologian - Aspects of his Teaching** by A. Fitzmyer, Joseph, S.J., Paulist Press, New York, 1989.
6. **A History of Christian Missions** by Neill, Stephen, Penguin Books Ltd., Great Britain, 1964.
7. **Hazrat Amir Khusrau of Delhi** by Habib, Mohammad, D.B. Taraporevala & Co. Bombay, 1927.
8. **Witness to the Faith** by Lease, Gray, Shannon (Irish University Press), Ireland, 1971.
9. **Viswa - Bharati News, 1944.**
10. **Revelation and its interpretation** by Shorter, Aylward, The Camelot Press Ltd., Great Britain, 1983.
11. **Diplomatic Correspondence of the United States - Inter American Affairs (1831-1860)** by R. Manning, William, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, U.S.A, 1937.
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Researchers at the Goethals

- **Ankan Purkait** on Company School of Painting: A Documents of Social History, Hooghly, W.B., India.
- **Bonny Ghosh** on Contribution of 19th Century Christian Missionary towards development of libraries in West Bengal, Kolkata, India.
- **Deepashree Dutta** on Portuguese Religion and Trade, Kolkata, India.
- **Fr. Julian S. Das** on History of Bengal Mission, Kolkata, India.
- **Fr. Rinald D'Souza S.J.** on Jesuit History, Goa, India.
- **Fr. Vinnara S.J.** on St. Xavier's Letters, Kolkata, India
- **Indrani Das Gupta** on Missionary History, Kolkata, India.
- **Mayukh Saha** on Study about Bengal, Kolkata, India.
- **Dr. Pragati Bandopadhyay** on Hindu & Muslim Relationship in Bengal, Kolkata, India.

Mails & Emails

- An excellent collection with impeccable maintenance of the glories of our beloved institution. *Sarbajit Ghosh.*
- Good Books fine are to do Research work. *Mayukh Saha*
- Good collection of Portuguese Sources. *Deepashree Dutta*
- I am impressed by the documentation of the Library. *Prof. Sibnath Das*
- I thank you most sincerely for having sent me the Goethals News. The articles on Mother Teresa are most interesting.

By sending me these news, you reminded me of the long and fructuous hours I sent in the library in 2008 when I was collecting data for my book "Belgian Heritage in India".

King Leopold II came to St. Xavier's in 1865 when he was still Duke of Brabante. *Philippe Falisse*

- Most impressive collection, excellent condition, very hospitable staff, thanks. *Patric D. Gaffnay, C.S.C.*
- Totally fascinating and fantastic collection. *Jacqueline Palit.*

Goethals News Team Wish you all

*A
Merry
Christmas*



*and A Joy-filled
New Year
2018*



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