



ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, MAPUSA GOA

Report of Activity conducted in the Academic Year 2024-25

Name of Activity	FIELD TRIP
Date/Duration	15 th March 2025
Venue	San Thome Museum Varca and Don Bosco Farm Sulcorna
Name of organizing Department/Cell	Department of Philosophy
In collaboration with	
Name/s of Faculty Coordinator	Ms.Aletthra.C.Vieira
Stratum of Event	
Name & details of Resource Person/s If any	Ms.Aletthra.C.Vieira
Report	<p>Field Trip Report: Philosophy Department, St. Xavier's College</p> <p>Date of Trip: 15th March 2025</p> <p>The field trip organized by the Philosophy Department of St. Xavier's College on the 15th of March 2025 was an enriching and insightful experience for both the students and faculty. The trip was structured to explore significant locations that blended historical, technological, and cultural knowledge, beginning at the San Thome Museum and concluding with a visit to the Don Bosco Farm.</p> <p>The first stop of the day was the San Thome Museum, located in Varca, South Goa, which we reached at 10:00 AM. Upon arrival, we were warmly greeted by Thomas Antonio Da Costa, the curator, technical artist, and a master of ingenuity in technological artifacts. Mr. Da Costa introduced himself and shared his passion for preserving technological advancements from bygone eras. His knowledge and expertise were evident as he provided a detailed background about the museum's impressive collection. He mentioned that his collections are not only from Goa, but from all over the world</p>

Mr. Da Costa also briefed us on some artefacts that were placed outside the museum, the bronze statue of St Thomas and a huge 3.3 tonne anchor to the side of the St Thomas statue to name a few. To engage the students, he conducted a small quiz, rewarding the students who answered correctly. This activity set an interactive tone for the visit and allowed the students to delve into the history of technology.

After the quiz, we were taken on a guided tour of the museum, where Mr. da Costa explained the significance of the various items displayed. The museum's collection spans from the 18th century to the digital age, showcasing the evolution of technology over time. The exhibits included ancient dictographs, early calculators, mechanical calculators, and the first typewriter ever made, along with the last electronic typewriter that preceded the computer. Additionally, the museum featured vintage clocks, a preserved seahorse, and a Schiedmayer grand piano—the only fully working piano in Asia, made with ivory keys.

One of the most captivating displays was the world's first 2-in-1 sculpture, which was a divine fusion of Father and Jesus. Other intriguing artifacts included old radios from the 18th century, vintage mechanical wooden shutters, film projectors, ancient coins, and a Raleigh cycle from the Portuguese era in Goa, which once required a license to ride. The cycle, unfortunately, could not be restored due to the unavailability of spare parts.

The tour was a journey through time, showing how technology has advanced and changed the way we live. Before leaving the museum, the students, teacher, and Mr. Da. Costa gathered for a group photo, capturing the wonderful memories of the visit.

The second destination was the Don Bosco Farm in Sulcorna, which we reached at 1:00 PM. After a long yet enjoyable morning, we had a much-needed rest for an hour in the serene surroundings of the farm. We were warmly welcomed by Fr. Laurence Monteiro, the Rector of Don Bosco Farm High School, who provided us with an insightful overview of the institution.

Fr. Laurence explained that the school is a co-educational boarding school for underprivileged orphan boys and children of farm workers. In addition to providing education, the school also functions as a farm. He took the time to discuss the various types of crops grown on the farm, emphasizing the benefits of mixed cultivation, which encourages diversity in farming techniques.

	<p>At the end of the session, Ms. Aletthra Vieira, Head of the Philosophy Department, delivered a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude for the warm hospitality and informative session. A token of appreciation was presented to Fr. Laurence, along with a gift for the children of the farm, in recognition of their hard work and dedication.</p> <p>Following this, we embarked on a small trek to visit the Miraculous Statue of Mary, a peaceful and spiritual retreat that offered a sense of calm and connection with nature. The view from the statue was breathtaking, adding to the sense of fulfillment from the day's journey.</p> <p>The trip concluded with the bus departing from Don Bosco Farm around 4:30 pm, marking the end of a memorable and educational day. The field trip provided students with a deeper understanding of technological advancements, the importance of mixed cultivation, and the significance of helping underprivileged communities. It was an unforgettable experience, filled with learning, appreciation for history, and a renewed sense of connection with both technology and nature. The Philosophy Department looks forward to more such enlightening excursions in the future.</p>
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