



ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, MAPUSA - GOA

Report of Activity conducted in the Academic Year 2024-25

Name of Activity	JAIPUR LITERATURE FESTIVAL
Date/Duration	15 th and 16th January, 2026
Venue	Hotel Clarks Amer, Jaipur
Name of organizing Department/Club	Department of English
In collaboration with	NIL
Name/s of Teachers Involved	Mr. Aaron-Paul Fernandes and Ms. Urvi Ghotge
Stratum of Event	International level
Name & details of Resource Person/s If any	NIL
Report	<p>On 13 January 2026, the students of the Department of English, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, set out on an intellectually invigorating journey to the Jaipur Literature Festival 2026, accompanied by Mr. Aaron-Paul Fernandes and Ms. Urvi Ghotge. The 21 students attended the festival on 15 and 16 January at Hotel Clarks Amer, Jaipur, where ideas, imagination, and inquiry converged on a global stage.</p> <p>The festival hosted an illustrious line-up of speakers, including Javed Akhtar, Stephen Fry, Banu Mushtaq, Kiran Desai, Anne Applebaum, Esther Duflo, Tim Berners-Lee, Stephen Greenblatt, Sudha Murthy, Jeet Thayil, Jimmy Wales, Ashwin Sanghi and William Dalrymple, co-director of the festival. A rich tapestry of panel discussions spanning</p>

	<p>literature, theatre, politics, history, colonial studies, travel writing, art, and astrophysics offered the students an experience that was both expansive and transformative.</p> <p>The sessions provoked reflection beyond academic boundaries. Javed Akhtar incisively observed the evolving moral landscape of society, remarking, <i>“A hero in cinema is a reflection of the morality of society. When morality changes, so does the hero.”</i> Stephen Fry, with wit and warmth, celebrated the power of language and selfhood, moving the audience when he said, <i>“I cannot be ashamed of who I am. I can only be ashamed of what I do.”</i></p> <p>As the festival unfolded, the speakers’ personal narratives, layered with wisdom and insight, made each session deeply engaging. A memorable highlight was the opportunity to meet International Booker Prize winner Banu Mushtaq and have her book <i>Heart Lamp</i> personally signed.</p> <p>Through this immersive experience, the SY and TY English students witnessed firsthand the enduring power of literature and ideas, returning enriched, inspired, and intellectually awakened.</p>
Brochure/Poster	https://xavierscollegegoa.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/poster-for-JAIPUR-LITERATURE-FESTIVAL-.pdf
Photographs	https://xavierscollegegoa.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/images-of-JAIPUR-LITERATURE-FESTIVAL-.pdf
List of participants with signatures	NA
Certificate	NA