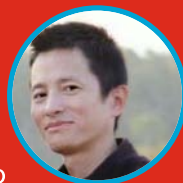




Dear Friends,

On the occasion of the celebration of Salesian College Sonada (SCS) hitting 80 years, Salesian College Publication is bringing out a compiled historical narrative in the form of a book. This endeavour being a herculean task, many individuals have been working for years to give right shape to the book. We wish to publish the book in January 2018 and we need the support of all the alumni of the SCS to aid the Salesian College Publication to shoulder the cost of printing. Therefore, we request all the alumni to make generous contributions towards the publication of the same. The target budget of the book is rupees 2 lacs and 50 thousand. If you are willing to support your alma mater kindly contact Ms Priyamrita Chatterjee at [priyamritac@gmail.com](mailto:priyamritac@gmail.com) for payment details.



*-Peter Lepcha, Alumni of Salesian College Sonada, Head, Department of English, Salesian College Siliguri*

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Dear Friends (Alumni),

As usual I am with a little story with a very valid lesson for you and me.

Once there was a man who did not make it to university. So his mother got him a wife. After the marriage, he worked as a teacher in a primary school. Due to the lack of experience, he was squashed by the students in less than a week.




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page

Dear Friends,

In our lives, when and in what context change happens is something we cannot always predict. We can only be prepared for the change that we know is bound to come, by way of illness, natural calamities and untoward incidents that may come the way of even those close to us.



More Inside



Dear Friends (Alumni),



As usual I am with a little story with a very valid lesson for you and me.

Once there was a man who did not make it to university. So his mother got him a wife. After the marriage, he worked as a teacher in a primary school. Due to the lack of experience, he was squashed by the students in less than a week.

When he returned home, his wife dried his tears. She comforted him with these words: "When one is too full, he could either pour it out what's in him or he just could not pour it out at all. You should not be too sad about it. Probably there is a more suitable job waiting for you out there."

Later on, he found another job and not for so long, he was fired due to his slowness. This time, the wife commented: "There are always people who are skillful and non skillful. Some Some have experience from their years of work. As for you, you were in school all this while. So, how could you acquire these needed skills?"

He went for a number of jobs but never stayed long in those jobs. Each time, he would return home with a dejected spirit. His wife would always comfort him and never for once she was disappointed or resentful.

He was in his thirties when he acquired a flair for languages. He became a counselor in a school for the disabled. A few years later, he set up chain stores in different cities and provinces selling apparatus and equipment for the disabled. He became a multi-millionaire. He was John Doe!

One day he asked his wife: "When I was looking bleak at my own future, what's the reason that you have so much faith in me?"

His wife gave him a very simple reply. "When a piece of land is not suitable for planting wheat, we could try planting beans. If the beans are not growing well, we could try planting fruits or gourds. If the vegetation is not economical, we can instead scatter buckwheat weeds. These seeds will one day bloom into flowers. On this land itself, there will be one seed that will germinate and grow."

After having listened to the wife's explanation, he cried. Hi wife's faith, love, patience and persistence in him is liken to the one seed that persists and creates the miracle on this piece of land.

"In this world, there is no one person who is useless. It is just that they have not positioned themselves firmly in right place."

With much love and blessings,  
Your affectionate Father and Friend,  
Fr. (Dr.) Mathew Pulingathil SDB  
Rector, Salesian College Siliguri



Dear Friends,

In our lives, when and in what context change happens is something we cannot always predict. We can only be prepared for the change that we know is bound to come, by way of illness, natural calamities and untoward incidents that may come the way of even those close to us. These events and happenings force us sometimes to look inwards and do soul searching.

In the month of November the Christian world remembers those who have gone before us, and in a way are beckoning us. I heard this little bit of information that the Pharaoh's of Egypt would have the construction of their tombs begun in the same year their reign would start. The longer a Pharaoh ruled the land, the bigger would be the tomb and its environs. A thought that brings us to the preparedness for the ultimate change that is ever at hand.

It is in the context of this change that comes to us - of moving from a place to another, of an office to another, a profession to another, or of work to retirement - that we truly begin to think of the lasting impact our work and our lives have made. For those of you who have children, you live on through them. It would be yet a good thought to consider that I have contributed tangibly to securing the future of a youngster through the support you could give to his or her education.

The stories and reflections we read on ALumNews month after month, brings this thought of how each of us have been made and shaped by the circumstances and persons that operated behind those.

May the communion we create of being connected to one another enable others to have even better opportunities than we had, in terms of making a career and a future that is worthy of our times.

**Fr George Thadathil sdb**

Principal

Salesian College





## **RADIO SALESIAN** **INDO-NEPAL FRIENDSHIP TOUR**



*Fr. C.M. Paul SDB, Vice Principal, Salesian College Sonada*

Radio Salesian 90.8 FM, the first community radio of Don Bosco South Asia and only college radio in Bengal and entire northeast India is marking its first anniversary with a friendship tour of Nepal.

This year also marks 25th year of Don Bosco Missions in Nepal as well as launch of 80th year of SCS.

So, Radio Salesian is making a bold initiative to travel by this 2005 make tin pot Maruti Omni van some 800 kilometers from East Nepal to West Nepal stopping over at Don Bosco Institutions in Dharan & Kathmandu to make radio feature programs in Nepali language which will be broadcast in Radio Salesian. Incidentally, Radio Salesian is the only Nepali language community radio in India.

We will travel from PASHUPATI in the east to KATHMANDU in the west, on a weeklong trip with 3 Radio Journalists to make radio programs on our institutions. We will also promote Salesian College Sonada / Siliguri for higher education for Nepali students.

We are looking for SCS Alumni sponsors for this bold venture... whatever help will be appreciated.

Our proposed budget for the tour is only Rs. 1,25,000 (one lakh twenty five thousand) including expenses to replace four worn out tyres and overhauling of the engine, installation of car radio set, and petrol cost. Anyone willing to partner in this venture could contact Fr C.M. Paul, SDB, Director Radio Salesian 90.8 FM, WhatsApp: 91.90076 26301 / Mobile: 91.82502 83881 eMail: [cmpaul53@gmail.com](mailto:cmpaul53@gmail.com)



## Life of a Paying Guest (PG)

*Tony Thomas, Alumni of Salesian College Siliguri*



Before I kick start with the topic, I would like to thank all those who read my previous article and shared their beautiful experiences/memories with me. It was worth knowing and listening that with Salesian College Sonada and Siliguri campus a lot of memories are attached. Well now I have started seeing this platform as a more sharing one rather than just a space for article. I would like to congratulate and appreciate all the writers for their wonderful write-ups.

As you have read the topic already you must have guessed that I have stayed away from home being at a wonderful destination called Hostel or better to say being a paying guest. And many of you must have already lived that life. Wasn't it great fun? I mean the room sharing, cloths sharing, fights, late night talks, delicious food and savings etc. with your roommates? We learn so much being a paying guest. Have you ever given it a thought that it's a life so different and meaningful? Siliguri definitely has many PG's and its own pros and cons. Right? Same would be the story of Sonada campus I guess. I stayed in a PG which was running since 15 good years. And guess what? Soon after my term the PG got closed. Well, it's obviously not because I or my roommates did any mischief. But yes we enjoyed our own gala time there. From playing table tennis till early morning and being there in college on time, to not getting up from the dining table whenever there is something very special on plate. You know very well how much special dishes we get in PGs and how we maintain cleanliness, specially 'boys'. A lot of stories and memories I have attached to those PG days. Surely I'll try sharing some of those in my write-ups in future. But the very purpose of me writing this one is to share some valuable lessons and teachings one learnt from being a paying guest. May it be during the course of study or while doing your job. Every PG has its own essence and place in your life. Curse it as much as you can, but still it holds a special place in your heart and not to forget, being a PGER you add certain additional benefits also to your life. Want to know them, read ahead.

**You realize that your Home is the best place on Earth and is much closer to your heart than you ever thought of** - It's only after staying in Hostel or PG that you understand the worth of your home sweet home. Your cozy bed and *Gharkakhana*. You'll understand it's worth then.

**You start valuing money and appreciate the things that belongs to you** - Value for money is one such essential element that we all need to focus on and take care of the things those money can buy.

**You learn all sorts of Management Skills** - Once you start staying away from home, eventually you accept your surrounding and live according to the situations, letting you polish your management skills altogether.

**You learn the so called dialogue you heard often, "Apne Pairon Par Khada Hona"** - Yes that's true. You learn to solve the problems that comes your way and that makes you more self-sufficient and strong.

**You'll know the real meaning of independence, how? -** Cooking, washing, cleaning, managing, no time constraints, taking care and doing everything by yourself - Isn't it complete freedom?

**You become a Traveler with time-** You start enjoying travelling. Because you start to hunt new destinations and explore more. With some amazing friends who have the same nerve, just set out on two wheeler and have some crazy posts to share on your Facebook timeline of that lovely place.



**You realize the worth of friends -** With days passing by, you make friends at the new place you are and is also staying with your PG friends. You come to know the very essence of friendship and how they become your family away from home. With time you feel at home at your friends place and feel no shame in picking up your bag and staying at their place for couple of days.



**There's nothing warmer than a Mother's hug and nothing special than a Father's words -** You'll feel the different world when you get back home for vacations and you get that very hug from your parents.

**When you start earning, it makes you feel proud and your parents prouder -** Believe it or not, till the time you start earning and living by your own, you will never know that value of saving.

**With all these realizations in your court, you tend to get matured -** Maturity comes with experiences and lessons you learn each day from your life. And in your PG life both of these knocks at the door in numerous ways. So feel proud that you have finally grown up better!

**Important Note -** If you are a lucky soul indeed, you may get a special family that will take care of you like their own child. Well I feel that I was blessed that all my friends' families were great support for me. But above all the attachment with the **Rakhecha family** was truly a home away from home for me. Love you all!

Leaving home for work or study seems like a new beginning altogether. But with all these reasons one must give it a try. Who knows your life might take a much needed turn! All those who have tasted this very PG journey know what I mean. Ball is once again in your court dear readersto share your PG experiences. Don't miss this chance to relive, think and share your PG/hostel days.



Happy Children's Day!!!

# Celebration of Diwali and ABCDE of Bhutan

## A photo feature



*P.C - Chanchal Agarwal,  
Alumni of Salesian College Siliguri  
and President of AASCS*



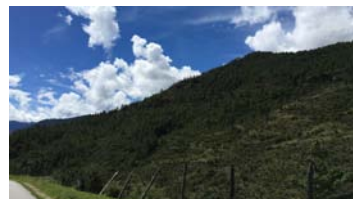
Every time we wait for festivals to celebrate and enjoy with our family and friends. This Diwali was another such story. From celebration with family to outing with friends. Each moment had its own essence.



As I now host different events and participate in many social activities, this Diwali was a blend of fun and learning for me. I was able to bring smiles for others. Becoming the reason for someone's happiness is a different feeling altogether.



This festive season was unique for me in its own way, hope it was different and special for you too. Along with photos of Diwali celebration here I am sharing some pictures of Adorable, Beautiful, Clean, Divine and Elegant (ABCDE) Bhutan.



# *From the campus*

The regular classes are resumed in Sonada Campus after 104 days of indefinite strike. The campus welcomed the new faculty and fresher along with releasing of year book on 5th October 2017



Salesian College Sonada students bagged 3 prizes at Sikkim University Media Fest

Fr. C.M. Paul, Mr Privat Giri and Ms Anusha Agarwala took 21 students to Media Fest organized by Sikkim Central University in Gangtok on 16 October 2017. Mr Dikshit Tamang from the Department of Mass Comm stood first for solo song. Miss Suprina Rai of Mass Com bagged second prize in Street Photography, and 10 member drama team from B.com received the third prize. The SCS team participated in six out of 12 events winning prizes in three events.



## **Parents Meet**

Salesian College Sonada organised a parent's meet for the parents and guardians of 2nd and 3rd students on 24th October 2017 in the campus. Teachers and Class Representatives were present. HoDs of various departments addressed the parents

Fr. George Thadathil, the Principal of Salesian College was invited by NAAC to be on the peer team of two colleges: one in Kolhapur, Maharashtra and another in Purnea, Bihar.

The mass Communication of both the campuses are publishing their Newsletter "Salesian Times"





## VISIT TO BLIND SCHOOL

*Preeti Nakipuria, Member, Alumni Salesian College Siliguri*

The President of the Alumni Association of Salesian College Siliguri Mr. Chanchal Agarwal along with some other members of the association visited a blind School "Bhimbar Snehashram Drishtihin Vidhyala" located in Bidhan Nagar (Around 38kms from Siliguri) on 27th September 2017.

There are around 50 Children and 3 Caretakers in the school. They all are devoid of Vision. It was surprising to see the talents of the children and their interest especially in Dance and music.

The Alumni members distributed some snacks like Biscuits and Chips. Also they interacted with the children and other people there to know more about the school and their need so that they can extend some more helps in coming days.

It was a small initiative by the association to spend some quality time with these children before DurgaPuja as these kids don't have their own home to visit during puja holidays.



Contact :  
**Priyamrita Chatterjee**, Alumni Coordinator  
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Our Media Partner

