



9th May 2015

## SCS 2005 REUNION



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- Fr George Thadathil sdb



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- Felix Jojo



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Fr. Dr. Mathew Pulingathil SDB  
Rector

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## DONATIONS IN AID OF NEPAL EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS (A RAY OF HOPE)



On 25th April, 2015 the earthquake struck Nepal where more than 8,000 people lost their life and around 19,000 plus faced minor and major injuries. It was the worst natural disaster to strike Nepal ever since the 1934 Nepal-Bihar earthquake.

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Report By:-

*Adbiesh Newar & Chanchal Agarwal  
Alumni Members, SCSC*



*Felicitation to SCS by batch of 2002-2005 on 9th May 2*



from left: Felix Jojo, Benjamin Tamang, Roshan D. Lama, Peter Lepcha, Priya Topno, Fr. George Thadathil, Fr. Pulingathil Mathew, Deepika Chettri, Nitin Chettri, Sidhant Tamang, Passang Dhendup

# SCS 2005 REUNION 9th May 2015

The recent gathering of the old students of the batch of 2002-05 was a memorable one for the warmth it generated. The life journey and the progress each one made since parting ways 10 years ago kept each one enthralled and deeply connected to one another.

Sometimes it is said that reunions reproduce old hierarchies and therefore shunned by some. However, this was one instance where each one developed mutual appreciation for one another through the personal sharing on how life treated each and how the challenges were dared.

The essence of life itself is in sharing. Let the occasions of Salesian College Alumni gatherings be homecomings and launching pads for greater sense of fulfillment being derived out of life by reaching out to theirs.

Seeing old students flower and bloom in life is the best gift an institution and those associated with its management can ever receive. Thanks for your appreciation and concern. Do make it for the next occasion.



Yours truly  
Fr George Thadathil sdb  
Principal



Little had I realized that ten years had passed since I graduated. Thanks to the Facebook post of one of my batch mates, Fr. Yozan David which initiated this process. Going back to my alma mater, Salesian College, Sonoda on the 9th of May, 2015 and meeting my batch mates and Professors after all these years was in itself a refreshing as well as a nostalgic experience for me. All the memories of the past came flooding back and I felt ten years younger!!! Even as we interacted and shared freely about the achievements and failures of our lives in the past ten years and made plans for the future as an alumni group, what impressed me was that all these years had not taken away or weakened the bond of friendship and the relationship that we shared years ago. Each one of us, no doubt, has grown up as individuals contributing in different walks of life, but no matter where we belong or what we do at present, we still carry the 'flame that enlightens and enlivens'(flammaardens et lucens) which was enkindled in us a decade ago. Proud to be an alumna of Salesian College, Sonoda. It was a day well spent in great company. Looking forward to witnessing and participating in many more such reunions in the future, not only of our batch but with other batches as well.

PriyaTopno (Lepcha)  
Alumna  
Batch:2002-2005



# SCS 2005 REUNION

9th May 2015

After having nestled in love and friendship for three years and then parting to different directions in life – striving and thriving; there was a happy reunion of SCSers 2002-2005 badge after a decade on May 9, 2015 at Salesian College, Sonada. It was a moment marked by sheer joy of meeting one another, sharing of experiences, listening to enriching words, group discussions and finally some singing and dancing. The first event of this sort after the college opened its doors for the diocesan brothers and day scholars since 2001, it was a time for the badge mates to relax, share and nourish their hearts through re-living and re-connecting. There were two different sessions. The first session began with a short prayer. Death may be the end of physical life but not of relationship. A few minutes' silence was observed as a mark of respect for a badge mate Late Sukant Rai, a friend and a brother dearly loved and missed who left this world for his heavenly abode after few years of finishing his college studies. A beautiful hymn God will hold you was sung for him after Fr. George Thadathil led everyone into prayer for him. This was followed by a beautiful talk by Fr. Mathew, the Rector of the College, on Relationship as a Gift that makes life beautiful and meaningful. It was followed by individual sharing of the experiences which constantly brought to the fore the role that the college played in edifying and transforming them into who they are today. It seemed everyone had much to share. Fr. George Thadathil, the Principal of the college congratulated each one present and added that this kind of coming together is to be encouraged and extended to the alumni of other badges for which those present could take some initiative and leadership. To end the first session the group presented a memento to the Rector and the Principal as a mark of gratitude and appreciation to their Alma Mater. The second session continued after the lunch which was an exclusive meet of the badge mates. The group discussed and decided to initiate and continue Sukant Memorial Sponsorship programme helping a meritorious/deserving student (chosen by the college) upto ten thousand rupees (Rs. 10000/-) annually at the present rate of college fee. It was to be a badge specific activity in honour and memory of a friend. However, the badge is hopeful that SCS alumni will take shape in more extended form and assume vibrancy and growth in the near future. yet hoping alone is never enough unless a beginning is made. The four members from the group were chosen to take leadership in this line - Mr. Peter Lepcha, Mr. Niten Chettri, Mr. Roshan Lama and Mr. Pasang Thendup. The badge thankfully acknowledges the support and encouragement of Rev. Fr. George and Fr. Mathew along with the alumni coordinator Ms. Piyamrita Chatterjee.



Indeed, tiny bumps in time shape our lives !!!

Fr. Yozan David Rai

It was a decade after we once again met at Salesian College Sonada. Although all of could not turn up but still we were 10 on 10th Anniversary of our farewell from SCS. It was nice to listen 10 years of professional and personal experience of our best buddies. It was indeed a fun to be as SCS Auditorium, breaking floors as before. Needless to mention we had fun, we had joy and we had a day to remember which made us 10 years younger.

Niten Chettri,  
Relationship Manager, Priority Banking,  
Axis Bank Ltd.



Just 14 days ahead of our reunion earthquake shook whole of Himalayan region making its epic centre in Gorkha District of Nepal, this experience by us all made me compel to rethink about the very existence of human being on earth, many lives were lost and the very important the relation of family and friends were broken for never to regain again!

So the reunion at College on 9th May 2015 became so special for us all that created a hope to rebuild our wall of friendship founded on a purity of heart and bounded on the essence of love. The welcome note delivered by Fr. Matthew Pulingathil on topic "Importance of relation on one's life" supplemented by his time tasted experience pierced our heart by word to word to refresh again!

Everyone opened up with a free mind without fear and share their joys and sorrows on past experiences like a Child to mother, at this point of time Salesian became a solace for all where one can recall or see upon as a light house. Fr. George Thadathil all time evergreen, welcome us with a smile and this moment were like a Father receiving his son after a long years, the provision of hall, meal, refreshment and specially the time made us feel like home.

Remembrance prayer dedicated in the name of our beloved friend Sukant took us years back where we spent our good days together in the sublime of both mature and immature stage and the unanimous decision dedicated in the name of Sukant for a good cause took us to the level of satisfaction.

The moment was so precious and we the 10 friends had a wonderful opportunity to cherish it, where no one can buy or nothing can replace. The reunion ended up with a commitment to draw all past pupils in the ring of fellowship of Salesians.

Roshan D. Lama,  
Batch of 2002-2005





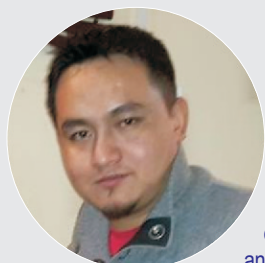
# SCS 2005 REUNION

## 9th May 2015

They say that 'we may not really know home if we have not gone away from it.' The Biblical story of the prodigal son going away from his family later 'came to his senses' and returned home. The elder brother in the same story complained about his younger brother and doubted his status in that family. It comes across to me that the elder one did not 'know home' because he did not 'go away from home,' an alternative manner this passage can be taken home. (Cf. The Bible, Luke 15:11-32) Well, the alumni meet of 9th May 2015 of the 2002 – 2005 batch tickled me to think and reflect along this line. I pick this not to draw sweeping and blanketing analogy from the parable, but it stands a unique reference point to understand all the sharing of experiences of my batch mates including my wife who used the expression 'I missed Salesian College' as a common foghorn. However, I never get the chance to 'miss' what my mates missed. I imagine that I am extended Salesian College, as Charles Lamb would imagine becoming the part of the wood of the chair he sat on and witnessed the ripening of the oranges in his presence. (Cf. Essays of Elia) I am that privileged alumnus who had no need to go away from home as I work in my alma mater. I do not need to miss it in the sense my mates referred to. Having said this, I must admit that I missed all my friends who went their ways in the year 2005. Coming together and spending a day like this was wonderful and overwhelming. We relived our memories in this meet. We talked much about what Salesian College, much more than about ourselves. Our dear friend Sukant Namdung was fondly missed as he went to his heavenly abode. I wish to end this by what I began sharing in the meet that I am grateful to Salesian College because it gave me – a degree, a job and a good wife.



Peter Lepcha  
Head, Department of English, Campus Co-ordinator, Salesian College Siliguri  
An alumnus, Salesian College Sonada



9th May, 2015, a date which will eternally be saved in the memory of my mind. It was on this date that after ten long years of my graduation I returned to my very own Salesian College Sonada. 'Time flies' is a very common phrase which most of us use without evening knowing its real meaning or experiencing it. But I somewhere realized that day, yes time really has wings and it flies. Ten long years have had passed by and I never felt that way. I was so engrossed in my life, struggling to earn my bread that I almost had forgotten myself. But the very atmosphere of SCS enlivened my heart and soul. I felt as if my long neglected and uncured illness has been treated and cured once and for all. I now feel 10 years younger than what I felt before that day.



The reunion though small in number was very pleasant and successful. Even the fog, mist and cold weather of Gorabari could not dampen the warm, loving and welcoming spirit of Fr. George Thathadil, the Principal of the college and of other Salesian fathers. They were as usual in their white holy cassocks very friendly, loving, inspiring and helpful. It was an awesome experience to be with them. Just meeting old friends after a decade was a sufficiently good reason to be there in the reunion. Moreover we had a very healthy session of sharing where each one of us shared our lives in short, our achievements, our languishment, and our visions for future. It was a kind of documentary of our lives presented to each other which gave us a glimpse about the lives of our friends. Moreover few important decisions with regard to the revival of Alumni were taken. The interim working committee headed by Mr. Peter Lepcha was constituted.

All of us present there missed our loving batchmate and our endeared companion Sukant Rai who is physically no more with us. We all prayed for peace of his soul and our batchmates took a resolution to immortalise him by giving away a scholarship in his memory to the most deserving student of SCS every year. At the end we all resolved to increase the presence in our next meet. Till then the newly formed interim working committee will look into the affairs of the Alumni.

Lastly our heartfelt gratitude and thanks to Fr. Rector, Fr. Principal and all the other Salesian Fathers who made this happen. Urging all the ex-SCS to be present in the future meet and eagerly awaiting the same.

Sidhant Tamang

9th May 2015, ten Bosconians met in the Salesian College Sonada campus, who had passed out from Salesian College Sonada in 2005.

Each of us were very happy to meet each other after a decade. The word 'nostalgic' seemed apt for the moment. It was a different feeling altogether mixed with the joy of reunion, sadness for those whom we couldn't meet, expectations and dream to do something for the college, and the resurrected memories that lay undercover for a decade.

We had a sharing session and we shared our life experiences..

After the sharing we discussed on what should we do as an Alumni of the college. In the presence of Fr. Mathew Pulingathil and Fr. George Thadathil we decided to initiate a scholarship scheme in the memory of our beloved friend Late Sukant Rai. The immediate idea was to award a year's scholarship of Rs. 12000/- to one of the deserving students of Sonada campus on 16th of August 2015 on the occasion of the Bicentenary of St. John Bosco's birth. The criteria for choosing the student is based on his or her consistent performance and improvement in the regular college and University evaluations. Of course the student should be chosen from those among the needy. The candidate will be selected by the college in consultation with the 2005 Alumni batch.



After a sumptuous lunch we formed an interim committee comprising of four members, namely Peter Lepcha, Dhendup Sherpa, Roshan Lama and Niten Chettri.

Then we all joined in singing and dancing. We danced our heart out with some of the signature steps by Fr. Yozaan, and of course Niten wasn't far behind in shaking himself to the rhythm of the guitar being enthusiastically played by Peter, Fr. Benjamin was a delight to be seen dancing, Deepika was on top of the world as she enjoyed to the fullest, Priya, Siddhant, Roshan and Felix were hardly seen on the dance floor though some came but disappeared at the blink of an eye.

We had our tea and then with a heavy heart we parted our ways to embark on the journey, we began a decade ago.

- Felix Jojo



My Dear Alumni Friends,

A lady in a faded gingham dress and her husband, dressed in a homespun threadbare suit, stepped off the train in Boston and walked timidly without an appointment into the Harvard University President's outer office. The secretary could tell in a moment that such backwoods, country hicks had no business at Harvard & probably didn't even deserve to be in Cambridge.

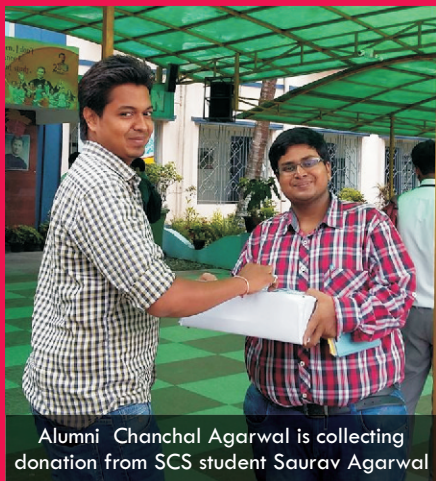
"We'd like to see the president," the man said softly. "He'll be busy all day," the secretary snapped. "We'll wait" the lady replied. For hours the secretary ignored them, hoping that the couple would finally become discouraged and go away. They didn't, and the secretary grew frustrated and finally decided to disturb the president, even though it was a chore she always regretted. "Maybe if you see them for a few minutes, they'll leave," she said to him! He sighed in exasperation and nodded. Someone of his importance obviously didn't have the time to spend with them, and he detested gingham dresses and homespun suits cluttering up his

outer office. The president, stern faced and with dignity, strutted toward the couple. The lady told him, "We had a son who attended Harvard for one year He loved Harvard. He was happy here. But about a year ago, he was accidentally killed. My husband and I would like to erect a memorial to him, somewhere on campus." The president wasn't touched. He was shocked. "Madam," he said, gruffly, "we can't put up a statue for every person who attended Harvard and died. If we did, this place would look like a cemetery." "Oh, no," the lady explained quickly. "We don't want to erect a statue. We thought we would like to give a building to Harvard." The president rolled his eyes.

He glanced at the gingham dress and homespun suit, then exclaimed, "A building! Do you have any earthly idea how much a building costs? We have over seven and a half million dollars in the physical buildings here at Harvard." For a moment the lady was silent. The president was pleased. Maybe he could get rid of them now. The lady turned to her husband and said quietly, "Is that all it cost to start a university? Why don't we just start our own?" Her husband nodded. The president's face wilted in confusion and bewilderment. Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford got up and walked away, travelling to Palo Alto California where they established the university that bears their name, Stanford University, a memorial to a son that Harvard no longer cared about. You can easily judge the character of others by how they treat those who they think can do nothing for them.

A TRUE STORY by Malcolm Forbes "People will forget what you said; People will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Your friend in Don Bosco  
Fr. Dr. Mathew Pulingathil SDB  
Rector



Alumni Chanchal Agarwal is collecting donation from SCS student Saurav Agarwal

## DONATIONS IN AID OF NEPAL EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS (A RAY OF HOPE)

On 25th April, 2015 the earthquake struck Nepal where more than 8,000 people lost their life and around 19,000 plus faced minor and major injuries. It was the worst natural disaster to strike Nepal ever since the 1934 Nepal-Bihar earthquake. Thousands of people were made homeless as entire villages flattened, across many districts of the country. This earthquake not only affected the lives but also destroyed the entire infrastructure of Nepal.

The Alumni of Salesian College Siliguri made an effort to generate some funds for the victims of the earthquake which can help in recuperating with their loss. A cardboard box was made and placed at the vice principal's room so that the current students as well as the staff members both teaching and non-

teaching, can also participate with their contributions for the social cause. The responsibility of collection was given to the BBA Department which was very well coordinated by the HoD, Mr. Shomik. It was a good collection of Amount which was later transferred to The BOSCONET Account as they are coordinating with Nepal Don Bosco Society . They thanked us for the generous participation and assured us that the money they received from us will be utilized properly.



Alumni Adhiesh Newar is collecting donation from SCS students Abhiishek Agarwal and Anish Rastugi

Report By:-

Adhiesh Newar & Chanchal Agarwal  
Alumni Members, SCSC



# Congratulations

Congratulations to our alumni who have tied the nuptial knot this year. We wish them and their partners lots of best wishes and happy conjugal life ahead

*Alumni Rajesh Nuhiwal with Punam Kabra*

*Alumni Shinam Gupta with Nitesh*

*Alumni Rashmi Bharatia with Nikunj Agarwal*

*Alumni Ekta Agarwal with Sumit Bansal*

*Alumni Naina Agarwal with Piyush Khemka*

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### Alumni meet at Salesian college Sonada and Siliguri

- As 2015 marks the Bicentenary of Don Bosco's birth, the Salesian college of Sonada and Siliguri has planned a three day Programme to mark the occasion on 14th, 15th and 16th August, 2015
- Events planned include a one day jovial celebration and get together of SCS Alumni which will be held at both the campuses of Siliguri and Sonada for the respective Alumni.
- For Siliguri campus the theme will be 'Don Bosco and our City' i.e. How to convert Siliguri to a smart city and what will be the role of Bosconians.
- Suggestions are awaited from all the Alumni of SCS to make it a sensational programme.

### Rector of Salesian College Sonada

- Fr. James Chako Molekunnel, who was the Vice Principal of Salesian college siliguri is now the new Rector of Salesian College Sonada