



All the alumni of Salesian college are invited for the

## Christmas gathering

of their respective campuses on

16th December and

for the special **Alumni Christmas**

event on 22nd at Salesian College Sonada



Dear Friends,

We have many festivals round the year and each has its unique flavour of colours and sentiments. The festive and joyous winter fest of the year is Christmas with its carols, trees and gifts.

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### *Dear Alumni*

We have reached the end of 2016 and we have many reasons to thank God for His many blessings. I have been praying for each one of you dear friends every day, whether I have known you personally or not. Let me conclude this year's last message....



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## Happy Christmas

Dear Friends,

We have many festivals round the year and each has its unique flavour of colours and sentiments. The festive and joyous winter fest of the year is Christmas with its carols, trees and gifts. Santa Claus and the humble manger scenes come to mind with memories of past and especially of childhood recollections.

This year, as the season comes to its climax, besides the worries and anxieties that plague the mind, with all that happens in the world around us, there is also some slight sign of hope beyond the clouds as it were. A hope that times will change and good tidings of comfort and opportunities shall not be in vein.

May we each be agents of this hope and joy for those more burdened than ourselves or less privileged than ourselves. May this willingness to reach out to make someone else's life a little lighter, more bright and promising be the real reason to celebrate Christmas this year.

To each and every one a warm Christmas wish from the cold and yet bright environs of Salesian college Sonada.

**Fr George Thadathil sdb**  
Principal



Dear Friends (Alumni),

We have reached the end of 2016 and we have many reasons to thank God for His many blessings. I have been praying for each one of you dear friends every day, whether I have known you personally or not. Let me conclude this year's last message wishing you God's blessings as we approach the birthday of Jesus Christ on 25th December and a very happy and fruitful new year 2017.

A young lady sat in a public transport. An old grumpy lady came and sat by her side as she bumped into her with her numerous bags. The person sitting on the other side of her got upset, asking the young lady why she did not speak up and say something.

The young lady responded with a smile: "It is not necessary to be rude or argue over something so insignificant. The journey together is so short. I get off at the next stop."

This response deserves to be written in golden letters in our daily behavior and everywhere:

It is not necessary to argue over something so insignificant. Our journey together is so short.

If each of us could realize that our passage down here has such a short duration; to darken it with quarrels, futile arguments, not forgiving others, ingratitude and bad attitudes would be a waste of time and energy.

Did someone break your heart? Be calm, the journey is so short...

Did someone betray, bully, cheat or humiliate you? Be calm, forgive; the journey is so short...

Whatever penalty anyone serves us; let us remember that our journey together is so short...

Let us therefore be filled with gratitude and sweetness. Sweetness is a virtue never likened to bad character or cowardice, but better likened to greatness.

Our journey together down here is really short and cannot be reversed...No one knows if he will have to alight at the next stop.

Let us therefore cherish and hold on to friends and family! Let us be calm, respectful, kind, thankful and forgiving to each other. If I've hurt you, I ask your forgiveness. But please remember: The journey down here is so short...

Your affectionate Father and Friend,

**Fr. Dr. Mathew Pulingathil SDB**  
Rector, Salesian College Siliguri





# 6<sup>TH</sup> BLOOD DONATION CAMP



Sourabh Agarwal, Jt. Secretary, Salesian College Alumni Association

Alumni Association of Salesian College Siliguri organized a blood donation camp in collaboration with Siliguri Terai Lions blood bank on 8 September 2016 from 10.00 am to 2 pm in the college campus. A team of 6 members from the Blood Bank including Dr. Om Prakash Agarwal, 2 medical technicians, 2 office staff and a driver were present there with an AC medical van to collect blood and provide other assistances. The donors were provided with refreshments and a certificate. Mr. Ramesh Jhawar, the Ex. Chairman of the Terai Lions blood bank visited the campus on the occasion. Campus Minister, Fr. Aju Kurian sdb, faculty members, administrative staff, alumni members and Students donated their blood and altogether 67 units of blood were collected. Fr. Dr Mathew Pulingathil sdb (Rector), Ms. Priyamrita Chatterjee (Alumni Coordinator), Mr. Chanchal Agarwal (President of Alumni Association) along with other office bearers and members of Alumni Association were present on the occasion.



## Help young people think, reflect, prelate asks educationists



-Fr. C.M. Paul, Salesian College, Sonada

Archbishop Menampampil

A global prelate based in northeastern India told leaders of higher education holding a national conference to "help young people to think and reflect."

Archbishop Emeritus Thomas Menampampil of Guwahati and Apostolic Administrator of Jowai in Meghalaya was the key note speaker at National Conference of IUS-DBHEI (Salesian Institutions for Higher Education - Don Bosco Higher Education India) meeting at Transformational Leadership Resource Centre at Siloam situated near Barapani Lake at Umsawkwan, Ri Bhoi district of Meghalaya.

Some 30 delegates representing over 40 colleges and one university from 10 Salesian provinces in India organised the three day conference on "Networking and Enhancing Tech Skills among Higher Education Institutions, 18-20 November, 2016.

"Can we help young people to think, to reflect with tools that will help," said Archbishop Menampampil exhorting the education leaders and decision makers.

Listing some of the issues plaguing the society today, veteran peace promoter church man insisted saying, "we need to balance the ideologically contradictory situations arising out of pluri-religious believers, immigration, and rising fundamentalism to help young people to deeper and permanent human relations."

The prelate reminded Don Bosco education leaders the founder's dictum, 'For you I study,' explaining "for the sake of ministry to make self more acceptable and capable as possible."

Archbishop Menampampil reinstated the urgency of implementing the principles of Don Bosco's educational principles of

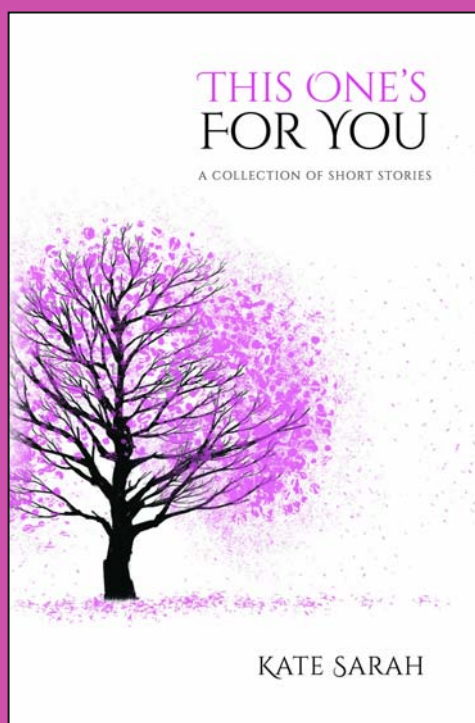
reason, religion and loving kindness even in the university institutions.

On 18 November afternoon Salesian Archbishop Menampampil who is widely known and respected for his scholarship and commitment to social engagements and more particularly for his Peace-building initiatives received Sanskriti Emeritus Fellow Life Time Achievement Award 2016 at a national conference in Guwahati where he also presented a paper. Sanskriti-North Eastern Institute of Cultural Research (NEICR), is Divine Word Missionary institution in Guwahati.



## "This One's for you"

Kate Sarah, Alumni of Salesian College Siliguri



What are we without stories? What are we without aspirations? A life spent to attend its vague purpose. My purpose in life was to speak. I knew I wasn't good in literature still I had many thoughts; many stories to tell but had no word to convey. I decided not to give up.

The journey was not smooth and it will never be but it is true that sometimes our imagination is more powerful than words. The stories inside me wanted to come out. It wasn't me, it was the stories those wanted to be heard, read and understood. I would also like to give credit to my friends and family who pushed me to pursue my dream of publishing my own book.

I have fifteen stories in "This One's for You". Each story stands individually. I have tried to incorporate or to a certain extent imitate the spirit of 'Saki' in humour, 'Guy de Maupassant' in resonance and 'O' Henry' in style. It is the writing style of Ruskin Bond that inspired me to write short stories in this manner.

I believe we all have our stories to share. I meet people and listen to their stories. Stories never die and we become immortal through these tales. Yes, the purpose of mankind is to be immortal, to be remembered even after decay. No difference, I also would want to be loved and remembered even when as dust I will be mingled with earth.

"This One's for you" was published by power publishers Kolkata, on 16th August 2016. It is self published book with limited distribution. It is available on Flipkart, Snapdeal, Infibeam, Purushotam books and Readwhere.com. Order your copy now!

# Teesta on the Run:

## Development-Induced Displacement in Sikkim, 1975-2010



-Fr. C.M. Paul, Salesian College, Sonada



A major study on displacement of peoples in Sikkim was released at a 3-day International Seminar on "North East: Peoples, Power and Perspectives" held at Sikkim Central University, Tadong. At the inaugural session of the seminar on 24 November 2016, Vice Chancellor, Prof. T.B. Subba released the Jesuit-Salesian authored book. The study lists some 65,000 people in Sikkim are victims of development induced displacement, i.e. more than 10 per cent of the entire population of the state. The statistics for development induced displaced population for the entire country numbers more than 65 million people.

The 352-page study was part of an All India effort to create a reliable data base with the hope of making a contribution to awareness building among the Displaced Persons - Project Affected Peoples and decision makers about the need to develop policies in favour of the marginalized.

The Department of Economics, Salesian College Sonada assisted the Director of North East Social Research Centre, Guwahati, Dr. Walter Fernandes in the research project funded by ICSSR, New Delhi.

Among three authors of the study are Dr Walter Fernandes, Prof. George Thadathil and Ms. Bitopi Dutta. Dr Fernandes is former director of Indian Social Institute (New Delhi) and 22 years editor of Social Action (1977-99) as well as founder director of North Eastern Social Research Centre (NESRC) Guwahati (2000-11) and director of research at Animation and Research Centre, Yangoon (2013-15).

He is at present Senior Fellow at NESRC.

Principal of Salesian College Sonada-Siliguri and author of Vision from the Margin (2007) Prof Thadathil have five edited volumes and over 30 published articles. He is also the series editor of SALESIAN - Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, and director of Salesian Research Centre.

Formerly Research Associate at NESRC after her Masters from TISS Mumbai (2012) Ms. Dutta has studied development induced displacement, traditional tribal conflict resolution methods and gender and sexuality. She also co-founded the first queer collective called Xukia.

Even though the Supreme Court interpreted Article 21 of the Constitution on right to life as every citizen's right to a life with dignity, studies indicate that those who pay the price and get the benefits of development belong to two different classes.

The first phase of the study for 1975-2007 in Sikkim and 1947-2007 in Nagaland was done in these two states together and was completed in June 2011.

In 2014-15, the above study's Sikkim section was separated and updated to 2010, and is published in the present volume.

While chapter 1 gives the core concepts, chapter 2 discusses the methodology of study and chapter 3 presents the background of Sikkim. The remaining chapters give quantitative data on land loss and displaced people. The concluding chapter has suggestions for conclusive development.

Most decision makers view development only as economic or GDP growth and building infra structure and consider displacement linked to it sad but inevitable.

On the other side those who want inclusive development hold that economic and social growth should go hand in hand and that one cannot be sacrificed for the other. They are of the

view that in the present situation those who are deprived of their sustenance in the name of national development and those who get its benefits belong to two different classes and that the former are impoverished for the comforts of the latter.

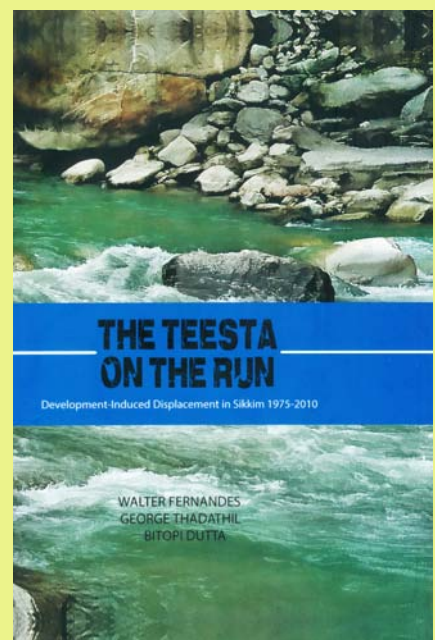
The study on which this publication is based tested this hypothesis through a quantitative data base on the extent of land used for projects from 1975 to 2010 and the number of displaced persons. It then looked at the impact on those who pay the price of development.

In the end, one is left with the impression that the GDP growth based view prevails in development planning in India. Hence, the authors recommend new approaches to be found not merely to rehabilitation but also to the laws and to technical aspects of the project that deprive people of their livelihood.

This book is published by North Eastern Social Research Centre (NESRC) in collaboration with Salesian College.

Published in Mattersindia.com

By Fr. C.M. Paul SDB  
Salesian College  
Sonada





## Coffee with Fr. Dr. Nirmol Gomes SDB

Kuljeet Kaur, Secretary  
Salesian College Siliguri Alumni Association

It was a wonderful evening for the Salesian College Siliguri Alumni Association on 19 November, 2016 as the registered members were invited to interact with the Provincial Head of the Salesians, of Don Bosco Kolkata, Fr. Dr. Nirmol Gomes sdb in the college campus. The occasion was graced by the presence of Fr. Mathew Pulingathil, Rector and Fr. George Thadathil, Principal of Salesian College.



The interaction commenced with honouring of Fr. Gomes with a 'Khada' by Chanchal Agarwal, President of the Association and Kuljeet Kaur, Secretary of the Association. Then all sang his favourite song "Surangini" which he himself had taught us. The song revived all the moments we had spent with him during our college years.



We had a personal interaction round where each shared the memories of events of college days those that have changed our perspective towards life and bought out the best in us. The funny incidents in which Father was himself a part were also cherished. Happiness of meeting him after a long time and sharing our memories and experiences since the college years could be clearly seen on every member's faces. After the sharing it was Fr. Nirmol Gomes who greeted us with his inspirational words, support and blessings for the success of our future endeavors.

Fr. Mathew Pulingathil, Rector and Alumni Delegate turned the atmosphere of the get together into a formal meeting when the core team openly elected Ms. Simon Keren as the Vice President and Mr. Sourabh Agarwal as the Joint Secretary of the association.

The meet came to an end by thanking Fr. Nirmol Gomes for spending his precious time to enlighten us through his inspirational words which will definitely motivate us during our future course of action.



### Good Bye Dear Fr. George Alakulam SDB

A very valiant, creative, innovative Salesian Priest, a great lover of the poor - Fr. George Alakulam SDB breathed his last at Navjeevan Hospital Gayaganga on 13th Dec. 2016 at 7.40 pm. Fr. George Alakulam was born on 13th July 1929 in Kerala. He had been a pioneering missionary in several of our institutions of Kolkata province. We have come to the end of a legend with his demise. He was a Father, friend and a benefactor to innumerable poor people of all castes, religions, languages and cultures. All that was possible because he was a holy Salesian Priest, anointed by God and imbued by the charisma of Don Bosco. He was an old student of Salesian College Sonada in the 50s. May he bless us and pray for us all from His heavenly abode.

- Fr. Mathew Pulingathil SDB



## From the Campus



Fr. Aju Kurian SDB and Fr. C.M. Paul SDB from Salesian College participated at the National Conference and AGM of IUS-DBHEI on “Networking and Enhancing tech Skills Among Higher education Institutions.” The national meeting of “Salesian Institutions of Higher Education (IUS) was held at Siloam, Shillong from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016.



The intra-college sports event was held in the sports ground of Salesian College on 19th November 2016. The programme began with the slow march and hoisting of the flag. Prof. J.N. Roy from the Dept. of PG English was the Chief Guest.



### Innovision 2016

Salesian Collge Siliguri Campus (SCSC) organised three day Annual Cultural and Literary Festival, Innovision 2016 from 24 to 26 November.

It began with the Taverna Trophy, an Inter College basketball championship, organized for the first time by SCSC in memory of Italian missionary late Fr. Paul Taverna who arrived at Siliguri in late 1960s and pioneered in setting up of Don Bosco campus in Siliguri. Inspiria Knowledge Campus, St.Xavier's College (NBU), SIEM, and Salesian College Siliguri and Sonada campus participated in

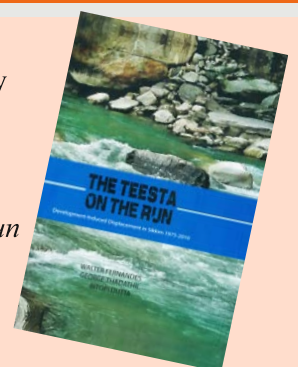
the tournament. Salesian College Siliguri Campus won Taverna Trophy 2016 in both the Men and Women events.

'Compumathix', a talent contest for the higher secondary school students of science stream was organized by the BCA and B.Sc departments of SCSC. They also organized various events like sketching, painting and collage making for high school students. It included competitions like Impresario (Mock CAT), Math Quiz, and Website making competitions. Army Public School, Bangdubi own the champion trophy.

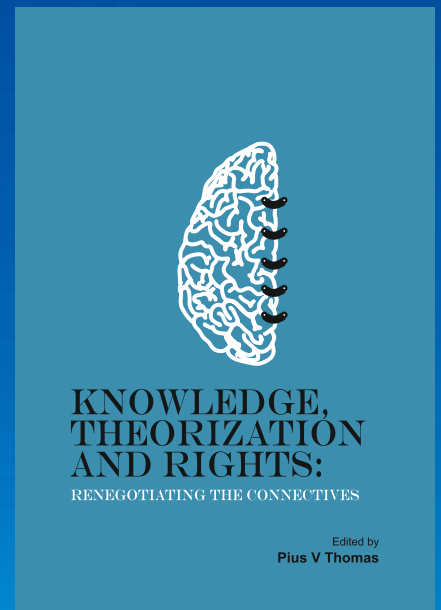
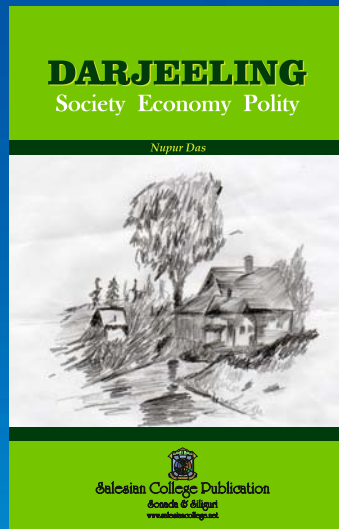
.The second day had the events of Quiz-o-Mania, Solo Songs and Indo-Western Fusion band. Third day's events included several innovative and creative competitions including photography, theme dance, debate and a fashion show.



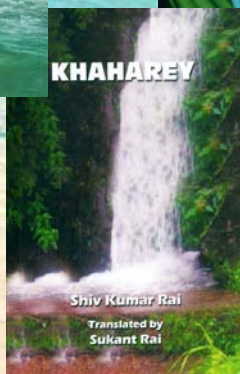
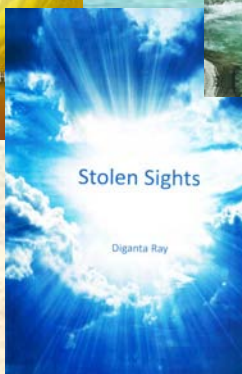
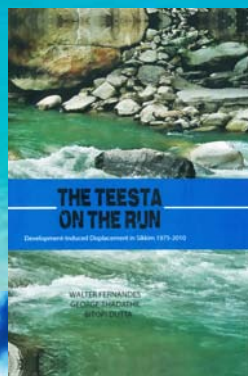
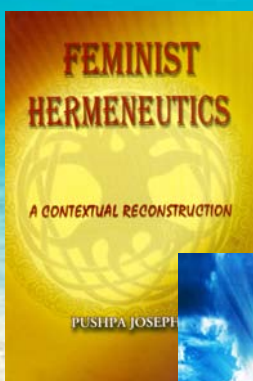
'Teesta on the Run' A book co-authored by Fr George Thadathil, the principal with Walter Fernades, the former director of NESRC, Guwahati was released at Siliguri, Sikkim University and Sonada on 23rd, 24th and 25th respectively. In Sikkim, it was released by the Vice Chancellor, Prof T.B Subba, on the occasion of an International Conference on North East: People, Perspectives and Policy. In the College campuses it was released by the Rector Fr. Mathew Pulingathil and the former GB president Fr John Berger respectively. *Teesta on the Run* is a study on development-induced displacement in Sikkim and is available with the Salesian College Publication office.



# Salesian College Publication Presents



## SALESIAN COLLEGE *Winter* BOOK SALE 2016



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