

The May - June, 2017
Search
YCS/YSM National News Letter

Book 37

Vol: 3

YCS/YSM INDIA



II YCS/YSM NATIONAL CONVENTION

“Called to believe; begin; become”

SOUVENIR

Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkata, India



St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata
PRAY FOR US

“If you judge people, you have no time to love them”

OUR VISION

To evolve a new society, where people live in harmony, where there is total freedom for the complete growth of the individual, where each and every person is respected in dignity, hence valuing peace, love, truth, justice and equality.

AIM

“A Just Society” - God’s Kingdom”

OBJECTIVES

Self change – Change others

Personality development

Leadership through talent exposure

Faith formation

Building up a better future

Fighting for social justice and peace

METHODOLOGY

Review of life - See, Judge and Act

(Awareness, Reflection, Action and Evaluation)



“The fact is, God loves us even more than we love ourselves.” Pope Francis

During the XVIIth National Council, we chose the theme, “Called to believe, begin, become”. We continue to reflect on this theme and exactly after one year, from 21st May to 26th May we gathered at Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkata for our 2nd National Convention. Here too, we continued our reflections on the same theme to deepen our understanding and work together to achieve some of the objectives of our movement.

Fr. Chetan Machado
National Chaplain (2016-)



Joseph Cardinal Cardijn

Message



Telephone No.: 2200-1641
Fax No. : 2200-0020



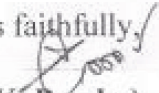
Assistant Secretary to the
Govt. of West Bengal,
Governor's Secretariat,
Raj Bhavan, Kolkata-700 062
E-mail: spl.secretary.rv@gmail.com

No. 1801-6

Date 17/5/17

Dear,

Kindly refer to your letter dated 06.05.2017. I am directed to say that the Governor of West Bengal is thankful for the invitation and would have been happy to attend the Second National Convention of YCS / YSM on 22.05.2017 but, it will not be convenient for him to accept it on account of his pre-occupations on that date. Hence, he has to regret the invitation.

Yours faithfully,

(T. K. Panda)

Fr. Devraj Fernandes
Director,
YCS Kolkata
Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
3, Lenin Sarani, Kolkata - 700013
Email : kolkata ycs@gmail.com

Message

মমতা বানার্জী
মমতা বৈনর্জী
ممتا بنرجی
Mamata Banerjee



মুখ্যমন্ত্রী, পশ্চিমবঙ্গ
मुख्यमंत्री, पश्चिम बंगाल
وزیراعلیٰ منترلی بنگال
CHIEF MINISTER, WEST BENGAL

5th May, 2017

MESSAGE

I am glad to know that the **2nd Young Christian Students/Young Students Movement National Convention** will be organized by *YCS Kolkata* on 22nd May, 2017 at Don Bosco School, Kolkata.

I convey my heartiest greetings to the organisers on the occasion and wish the event all success


(Mamata Banerjee)

The Director
YCS Kolkata
Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
3, Lenin Sarani
Kolkata – 700 013

Nabanna, West Bengal Secretariat, Howrah-711 102
West Bengal, India

Tel : + 91-33-22145555, + 91-33-22143101
Fax : + 91-33-22144046, + 91-33-22143528



NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Message



Called to Believe! Begin! Become!

Greetings to all YCS/YSM'ers,

For most of us new annual year has already begun, for some yet to. A new beginning to a new journey that life has to offer for us. It's a common thing for others to ask us to keep a new resolution for the new year in order to improve our drawbacks. Personally, in all my past years, resolutions have never worked out.

According to my thoughts and understandings, we improve ourselves completely by our experiences. Keeping aside our text books, G.K. books, Google and Wikipedia I think our life is our greatest text book that teaches us so much. The experiences we have, are like the different chapters. At the end of each chapter we have questions and revisions to be done. In our lives, we have something called the 'Review of Life' and by utilising our methodology 'See, Judge, Act' we can evaluate our lives. In this way, we learn something new from every chapter and also we will be able to instill new values and morals through our methodology.

During the 17th National Council held at Greater Noida, UP, the theme chosen for the coming three years was "Called to Believe, Begin, Become" which remained the theme for the II National Convention as well.

This theme remains apt when we glance through our modern day young mentality. Each of us is born with a special purpose to be fulfilled. We are given the gift of socialism, to be a blessing and to add joy in others lives. We have been called to believe in ourselves first and then in the humanity and in the good that exists around us.

We keep facing numerous hurdles, obstacles and challenges and we keep falling. But we never fail to rise up because there we believe in ourselves and then we begin a new journey of transforming us into a new and a renewed being to help create God's kingdom. Ultimately it is we who choose to believe in the good, to begin something good and finally to become someone good!

It is a privilege for me and my NEXCO to heartily thank the diocese of Calcutta for hosting the II National Convention. Thanks to all LOC's and DEXCO's for working day and night for the success. We are grateful to all Regional Chaplains, Diocesan Chaplains and all the animators for participating in the Convention in big numbers. Thanks to all former NEXCO's and volunteers for supporting and helping us. Special thanks to all the wonderful delegates for your participation. Your involvement has now resulted in the success of the Convention. Continue inspiring and spreading the good this movement does. Thankyou Fr. Charles, IYCS Chaplain for being with us during the days of the Convention.

Lastly, our love and gratitude to our dear Fr. Chetan, YCS YSM National Chaplain, for being a constant support and guide throughout the days of the Convention. God bless you dear father.

Let YCS/YSM light shine around us forever!

Regards,

Jesvita Princy Quadras

National President





NATIONAL SECRETARY

Message

Greetings to all!!!

My dear friends, Rachel here with you. Hope everyone is busy with your school and college events. During the last National Council, we decided our theme and thrust for the next three years. I would like to share my thoughts on this. Being a YCSYSM'er everyone has a responsibility to change self and change others. Our theme invites us to make our contribution in building a new society. It is indeed a divine call given to all of us to build God's Kingdom.

Firstly, Called to BELIEVE- "Belief " This word is losing its significance and becoming weak. Young students fail to believe in themselves and divine because of their attachment to gadgets. YCS/YSMers should work hard to make this powerful word more meaningful by making today's youngsters aware of their part in the society and their individual role for buiding God's Kingdom.

Secondly, Called to BEGIN- Being a YCS/YSM'er everyone is blessed with special talents from God. So we should begin to bring change in ourselves first and then change others. We should use our talents in making others to become the messengers of God.

Thirdly, Called to BECOME- This word is the most powerful word among these three words, as it portrays to mould ourselves to build God's Kingdom. It also helps us to understand what we should be- in accordance with what we aspire to be. As a whole the theme urges us to work together as YCS/YSM family to fulfill the spirituality of the movement and to become responsile members of the this family. We need to strive and acheive greater heights by having faith in God by BELIEF in him and ourselves, to BEGIN our part by bringing change and finally in BECOMING perfect individuals to build New Society-God's Kingdom.

Finally, I thank God, for his abudant blessings upon us. I also take this oppournity to thank our RYD, Fr. Marianus and our DYD, Fr. Varghese for their support, A special thanks to our dearest Chaplain Fr. Chetan Machado who is a person with perfection. Without whom this convention could be impossible. Thank you father for making it a grand success. Hearty thanks to Mr. Midrash Matthew, National part time Coordinator, a person who supports us in everything we do. Last but not the least, to my team- Thank you everyone for making it big, much more than we expected. " A New Vision", "A New Aim", "A New Journey" that we have begun. I am sure that we working together to prove ourselves to fulfill our part of being the rocks to build God's Kingdom. I request the support of all our RYDs and DYDs to journey with us and help us to transform our society. I am ready to be a "change maker- are you.....?"

Long live YCSYSM!!!

Regards,
Raichel Patricia
National Secretary



EDITORIAL

Let's Be What We Are



Natasha Louis

Hello YCS/YSM'er I hope you all have enjoyed your summer vacations

As you all know that in the month of May, 2017 we had our 2nd NATIONAL CONVENTION at KOLKATA. Those five days, each one us came to know about so many aspects about the theme and thrusts of the Convention, "BELIVE BEGIN AND BECOME". They are just not three words from the dictionary but shows the entire growth process of the person. To believe in oneself is the very first step. Unless we have the belief that we are capable of doing something we will not be able to proceed in life. To do something we need to believe in ourselves and in God. Then comes the process of moving forward with the ideas and plan that we have. We need to BEGIN, a process where we start working hard to achieve those plans. Finally if we plan systematically, we are able to BECOME someone in life. Therefore the theme we chose for our convention was very apt as we journey forward to realise our dreams as young students

YCS/YSM through it's methodology teaches us each day to begin with a smile and to fulfil our own dreams and ambitions by working hard and to achieve what we want in our lives.

The 2nd NATIONAL CONVENTION is already over and I hope that each one of us will remember all that we have learnt during these 5 days and to implement it in our lives. In this special edition of 'The Search we have published some very important and useful articles on the theme. There are also testimonies and experiences of students who participated in the convention which is inspiring. We are glad to give you all the information about the Convention and place this special edition in your hands for reading.

I would request all of you who haven't subscribed for search to please do so because it is your magazine also please write articles, poems, messages and share your experiences through this platform. Our email is : thesearchycsystmindia@gmail.com

Finally, I thank all those who worked hard to bring out this special edition. All those who contributed in terms of messages, articles and experiences. I thank our sponsors and benefactors who have helped us to organise the 2nd Convention. I thank Most rev. Thomas D'Souza, Archbishop of Delhi and all the priests of the Diocese of Calcutta who encouraged and helped us durin the convention. My sincere gratitude to Fr. Devraj and Sr. Gouri, Youth Commission of Calcutta Archdiocese and all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to make our convention a grand success.

Each new day is a blank page in the diary of your life. The secret of success is in turning that diary into the best story you possibly can. THANK YOU & Happy reading.

LET YCS/YSM LIGHT SHINE
NATASHA LOUIS

Former Chaplain's Message



Fr. Johnny Monteiro
Former National Chaplain, 1975-79

Greetings to each of You! Kamal Francis just dropped in to see me and requested a message for you. I joyfully proclaim that YOU-YCS/YSMers are the WHATSAPP of Today! WHATSAPP? Who says so? Cardinal Joseph Cardijn said 50 Years ago. I am just joyfully recalling that message. It was he who said SEE; JUDGE; ACT. Today you are the WHATSAPP that sees things, events, people around you! You then get together to reflect and judge on what you see! And then you Act. You shout and proclaim! Wow! That's great! Let's DO THAT! , So wake up ! Get-up together in your small cells and see and share the WHATSAPP going on in your mind and scream out your WOW! In some wow filled actions in your units!

Ciao! Sayanora! Firmelenge! Bye!

A Message for Old Timers!

Kamal Francis, Melvin Titus and Alice Anthony delightfully surprised me with their visit and we shared a cup of tea with memories of old and new full timers and members and asked for a message!. A Message for Old Timers! I consider myself to be the oldest timer ever. What better message could I give than that of Cardinal Joseph Cardijn: See; Judge; Act and the Review of Life!! Technically we are the WhatsApp of the Movement; Reflecting and Reviewing our Memories and Actions of the Past! Come Lets join the latest craze of selfies seeing ourselves and individuals as small groups sharing and evolving and planning out strategies a Jesus told us; Launch out into the deep.Lk:5/4. I recall now that Rabindranath Tagor poetized this prayer : Where the Mind is without fear and the head is held high: Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever widening thought and action; Into that heaven of freedom my father , let my country awake! Pg: 61 of Gitanjali! And I am reminded of our Modern "Hum Honge Kammiyab"

Fr. Johnny Monteiro
Former National Chaplain

MESSAGE

“Your life is your message”



Most Rev. Thomas D'Souza

Dear brothers and sisters,

The Lord takes delight in his people. This was the response given to us for today's psalm. In the holy readings after the first reading; the Lord takes delight in his people. Infact the entire history of the people of God as described in the Holy Bible from creation to second coming of Jesus Christ, it is a story of delight, the joy of God to his people, for us. When Paul and Barnabas went to the non Jews, the gentiles to proclaim that Jesus was the Messiah, that he was alive and many believed in Jesus as Son of God, God took delight in all those who received the gift of the Holy Spirit.

We may say that the Lord takes delight in a special way in you young students because you are young, you have energy, you have generosity and you have faith. God the father took delight in his Son Jesus. He called Jesus "...this is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased, listen to Him", at the time of Jesus' Baptism and at the Transfiguration. And Jesus did not let his father down. But lived up to the expectations even when it meant that he should die on a cross to save mankind. Therefore, God raised him up, says St. Paul in his letter to the Phillipians. And Jesus was faithful to the Father's plan and will till the end.

In New Delhi, at the *Samadhi* of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation at Rajghat, we find these words written there "**my life is my message**". Indeed the life of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of our nation was built on truth, on non violence and on sacrifice. He did not give up these values for any comfort or reward. He remained faithful to the end to the convictions he cherished based on truth and non violence, respect for all people, very specially the poor and the downtrodden and for which he had drawn much inspiration from the Sermon on the Mount of the gospel according to St. Mathew.

In the city of Kolkata where you are, we have a person of Mother Teresa, now St. Teresa of Kolkata in whom God took great delight. Her life was her message. As the sisters pray, 'we preach not by words but by our examples but the catching force, the simplicitic influence of what we do that Jesus Christ is preached by our life'. That was mothers life. Her life was her message. Convinced by the teachings of Lord Jesus, especially the commandment of love, 'love one another as I have loved you' and his identification with the poor and the suffering. When he said, 'whatever you did it to the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me or you did not do it to me'. Mother Teresa served the poorest of the poor, first in the slums and streets of Kolkata and then all over the world. She lived up to the expectations of Jesus by trusting in him. Surrendering herself to him. Serving the poorest of the poor with love and joy and thus becoming a witness to the love of Jesus. Her life was her message.

But you might say, that's alright with great people like Mahatma Gandhi or Mother Teresa, all the saints, but we are ordinary students. is it possible that Lord takes delight in us? Yes, it is surely possible and the Lord takes delight in you. In today's gospel reading Jesus tells his disciples, '...and you too will be my witnesses for you have been with me from the beginning, but you will be my witnesses with suffering too. And he promises the Holy Spirit will accompany us. So that we may remain faithful witnesses to Jesus till the end of our life that our lives too may become a message for him.

God bless you

MESSAGE

The greatest wealth of a nation is its youth



Fr. Devraj Fernandes

As we are holding the 2nd YCS/YSM National Convention on the theme ‘Called to believe, begin, become’, it has a special significance to the YCS/YSMers of India. I am happy that we are hosting this convention on a relevant theme as young people need to understand that they need to believe in themselves in these challenging times.

The greatest wealth of a nation is its youth. If this wealth is utilised properly, that nation progresses in every field. The quality and the quantity of the youth determine the kind of future they will have. In order to ensure a bright future for the nation we need to empower our youth.

The youth are always enthusiastic, energetic and full of life. They are ready to do anything. They can make their community, nation proud. If we harness this powerhouse of our nation in the right direction, we can achieve a lot. All we need is to direct and channelize their vital energy in a more constructive way. The creative potentials of the youth coupled with their zeal, passion and versatility can work great wonders for the church and the nation. If not harnessed timely and rightly this energy can spill over and become destructive and dangerous for the society.

The present scenario in our country is not very positive. Young people are facing a lot of challenges. Young people are used to spraed violence, there is no employment, migration, brain drain, poor facilities, too much of media are some of the challenges they face in our country. There is a collective failure from the part of the government, the Church, community, school/colleges and parents. I feel at times we have not understood our young people. We have failed in our duty to capture their energy and channelise it in the right direction of spirituality and right living. Because of our negligence many young people have made a mess of their life.

Pope Francis says, “So I ask you: Are you looking for empty thrills in life, or do you want to feel a power that can give you a lasting sense of life and fulfillment? Empty thrills or the power of grace? To find fulfillment, to gain new strength, there is a way. It is not a thing or an object, but a person, and he is alive. His name is Jesus Christ. All together, then, we ask the Lord: “Launch us on the adventure of mercy! Launch us on the adventure of building bridges and tearing down walls, barriers and barbed wire. Launch us on the adventure of helping the poor, those who feel lonely and abandoned, or no longer find meaning in their lives.”

Lets help our young people to realise their dreams. Let them bring closer to to Jesus. The church and the nation are eagerly waiting for the revelation of its youngsters who are enthused with the power from above. It is they who can bring a smile on the face of others. Let the youngsters rise and shine and fulfill the prophetic words of the Pope.

Fr. Devraj Fernandes
Diocesan Chaplain
Archdiocese of Kolata

MESSAGE



Jeunesse Étudiante Catholique Internationale
International Young Catholic Students
Juventud Estudiantil Católica Internacional
Internationale Katholische Studierende Jugend



“You have put your hand on the plough, don’t look back.”

Fr. Charles Menezes

This saying of Jesus has been proven in the history of YCS/YSM India. It took quite many years to decide to organize a National Convention, because we never believed in large group gatherings. We believed in small cell meetings which helped the members to approach student issues with personalization, bringing about an attitudinal change in them. It was in 2014 we tried organizing the first National Convention in Bhopal. It was a great success in gathering students from all over India in one assembly, sharing the vivacity of our movement with all the differences and uniformities, attitudes and ambitions, cultures and talents.

Having participated in the 2nd National Convention held at Kolkata this year, I can assure you that these conventions will be good opportunities for the students to share their interest, knowledge and openness on every topic taken up for their sharing and learning.

The talented young students were all out in challenging the world, that they are not less than any of the learned, which they proved with their participation and thought provoking questions. They are so sure in bringing about a change in the society, but with a difference, that this change would be brought about by the prime objective of YCS/YSM “Transformation of the Self to Transform the World with an option for the poor”

The souvenir “SEARCH” will be an added feather to YCS/YSM, in documenting the events of National Convention to preserve it for the future generation. I wish all success to YCS/YSM India, its Executive body and the National Director in carrying out the tasks that are envisaged by the present students to bring about that change for the generation to follow their footsteps, to Believe, Begin and Become.

Fr Charles Menezes
International Chaplain – IYCS, Paris, France



Statut de consultation spéciale avec l’ONU
B.N.P. Agence Parc Montsouris (809) n° de cpte 212 43 625
Tél. : 33 1.45.48.14.72

<http://www.iycs-jeci.org>

IYCS-JECI International Secrétariat
7 Impasse Reille, 75014 Paris, France
Fax : 33 1.42.84.04.53

mail : mail@iycs-jeci.org

MESSAGE



Celebration of youthfulness

Sr. Gouri Sardar

The 2nd YCS/YSM National Convention itself is a blessing to the youth of India & Kolkata. I was very happy to be involved fully from the beginning of the preparation of this convention. It was a great learning experience for me to work with the young people. Our young people from Kolkata got an opportunity to host the National even and I am satisfied the way they worked to make it a successful one. All our efforts are to empower youth to discover their mission and goal. The Church in India count and believe on youth. Our theme was apt and it helped the young people to believe in their creator and themselves, to begin a new life and become a good citizen, a good christian.

When we accepted to host the 2nd National Convention, we were not very sure about organising it. During the last Council in NOIDA, we were requested to host the event. As we came back to the archdiocese and discussed the plan, we got a very good support from the archdiocese, religious and specially young people.

Today young people need more and more such occasions to come together and share their life experience, their faith experience. This kind of event gives them a very good exposure and helps them to realise their worth, their potential.

It was a treat to see many young students mingling with each other, playing, sharing, dancing and enjoying. We had a great celebration of youthfulness.

I wish and pray that whatever we do for the growth of the young people will surely bear fruit and God will guide us and strengthen us. Lets us go ahead with our faith and Lord Jesus will bless us.

Sr. Gouri Sardar
YCS/YSM Coordinator
Kolkata

RESTORING HUMAN DIGNITY

On Human Dignity

Human Dignity can never be possible by depriving other humans of their dignity. Human dignity, is thereafter and logically, the God-given/natural right to sustain our own life, and the lives of those in our care, through our own labour and an equitable share in the natural resources of our community; and the natural right to live in the world without any fear or oppression.

As former United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, said “Today, no walls can separate humanitarian or human rights crises in one part of the world from national security crises in another. What begins with the failure to uphold the dignity of one life all too often ends with a calamity for entire nations.”

The Road to Restoring Human Dignity

For decades, our society has struggled with the social issues surrounding poverty. Crisis everywhere is making it hard to know where to start or who to listen to. A culture of fear, suspicion, and paranoia pervades everywhere. Armed conflicts, the world over, have changed political combinations and permutations disrupting political, social and gender hierarchies, and depriving marginalized groups. The social, economic, political and psychological brunt of all the armed conflicts across the globe has been borne by the common populace; and the first casualty has almost always been ‘Human Dignity’. Abject poverty forces families and individuals into desperate situations.

Even my own small town feels poverty, hunger, gang violence, substance abuse, and a high unemployment level threatening to overwhelm humanity daily. I must admit I feel helpless. The problems afflicting humanity are so overwhelming that we often shut down without making any effort at all. We focus on ‘taking care of our own’ and letting ‘people who know what they are doing’ handle the rest. Some believe that people are poor because they were born into the wrong family, race or culture, while others believe poverty is a matter of being unlucky, unwilling or incapable.

However, I believe there is a middle ground through simple, tangible ways in we can restore human dignity – ours and others; ways which rekindle the human spirit and acknowledge the humanity we share. Human dignity goes to the heart of human identity. Without dignity none of the protections of the various legal human rights mechanisms can have real meaning, which is why the concept has held, and continues to hold, a central place in the international human rights framework.

I also firmly believe that when our lives and our work are guided by our faith and by high moral and ethical standards emanating from our faith, our vision becomes clear and we realise the correct way to instil human dignity in our own lives as well as that of others.

Restoring human dignity

In the swirling mass of humanity are people who desperately need a moment of our time, to receive the simple affirmation that we are in this life and this world together. When we see people, really see them and understand their vulnerabilities, even for a moment, we are restoring dignity.

We all need to reflect on our own actions and firmly resolve on restoration of human dignity in all stratas of society, and form a staunch conviction to help communities overcome cycles of poverty and slavery – not with any temporary handouts and aid, but with holistic sustainable development programs that will bring lasting hope and change to communities. This would perhaps be the best way in bestowing dignity by creating their respectable and harmonious existence in a world which is as much theirs as those who wield power over them.

Save humanity, serve humanity. Jai Hind.

Human dignity is a right of every person. Very well said by our Pope Francis- People are not things to be kept for sale, rather each individual is more than any thing. The dignity of a person is priceless.

Each and every individual must be valued in terms to protect and safeguard their identity of being a human. A person, just by his existence, in itself, is sufficient to acknowledge his right to human dignity. Our constitution of India in Article 21 speaks about protection of life and personal liberty. It means that, every human life is precious and further, every human must survive with dignity.

In today's world, various sections and class of people are being treated as slaves and in bondage. Where people don't even have freedom to take their personal decisions. Say for example, the prisoners, who still acquire, their dignity to be preserved. If in case, they are wrongly persecuted or charged maliciously. Human dignity doesn't only mean the right of freedom or to be shown respect but also to acknowledge the interest of the person in that particular aspect.

Every human being also includes children and even unborns. According to legal framework, unborn too has a legal personality and is to be protected.

Children on the other hand, protection of their rights put emphasis on right to education, right to nutritional food, right to proper health etc. so that their right to life and personal liberty shouldn't be infringed. It is also one amongst various major issues, that, why does child labor prevail? There has been many state policies by government to protect children rights.

The major issue, the world face is, the protection of women and the girls and their rights too. We have come across various incidents on violation of women rights in many ways. Such as harrasment at workplace (vishakha judgment and guidelines), domestic violence on women etc. These all violation of women rights is significant when we talk about human dignity as, women are regarded to be the most respectable amongst all creation. Therefore their rights must be protected and be respected. We must strive to stand in unity to get them justice. We all must consider our duty to protect them from such violence. We must educate children well, towards safeguarding each one's interest.

Every person is a creation of God and entitled to be respected. Being a dignified, is a right and not an option. We must treat all equal, as the law does, irrespective of any denomination.

Save humanity, serve humanity. Jai Hind.

II NATIONAL CONVENTION

ORIENTATION TO THE CONVENTION

A. INTRODUCTION:

YCS/YSM India family is once again gathering for the 2nd National Convention at Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkata. Take note of the things given below so that you can participate well in it. Convention is a time for us to come together and share new things that have happened in our regions, make new friends and strengthen our YCS/YSM bond.

WHAT IS NATIONAL CONVENTION:

By definition, a convention is “a formal meeting of members, representatives or delegates, as of a movement.”

The convention helps to evaluate our movement, prepare a plan to work for the next few years and helps to a roadmap.

Conventions provides a symbolic moment of pride and enthusiasm, and an opportunity to show our movement’s strength. It helps to analyze, study, reflect and to plan so as to give direction to the whole Movement.

B. RUNNING OF THE CONVENTION:

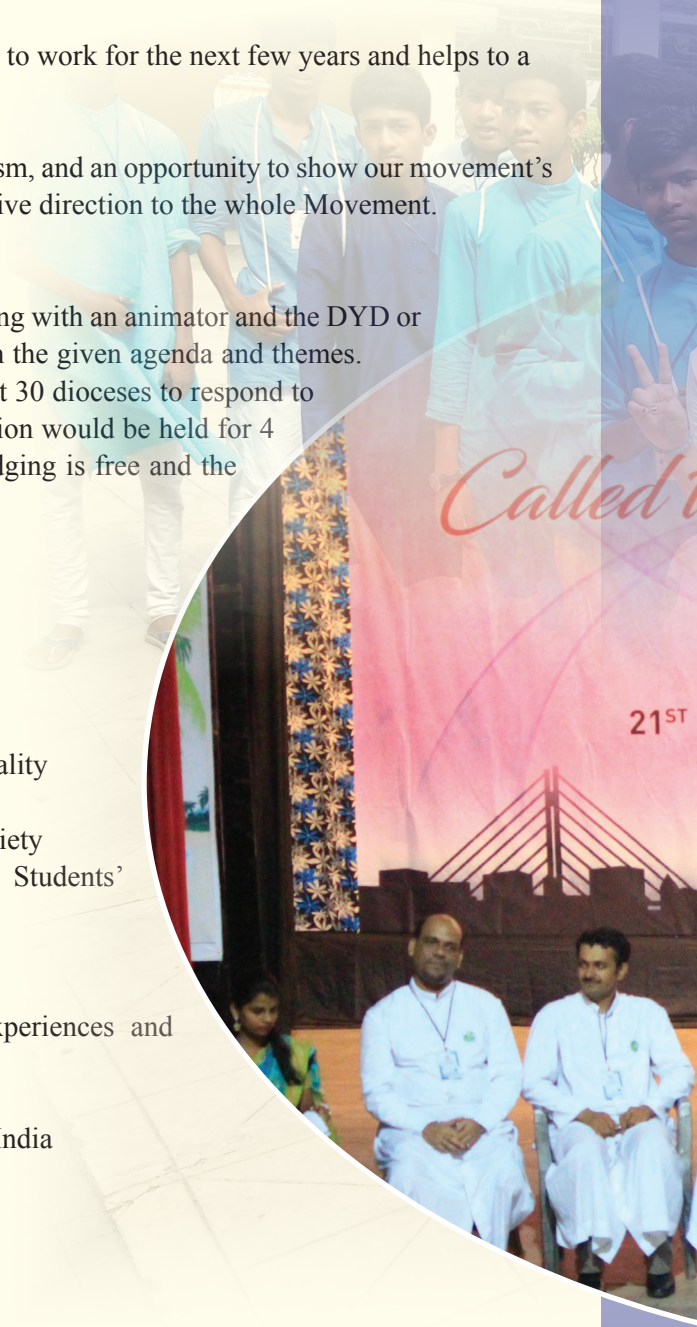
We intend to invite 10 student members each from a diocese along with an animator and the DYD or coordinator who will help the student members to deliberate on the given agenda and themes. At present we have YCS presence in 65 dioceses and we expect 30 dioceses to respond to it, thus the number expected is 350 inclusive of LOC. Convention would be held for 4 days and the expected cost is Rs 10-12 lakhs, provided the lodging is free and the cost of food is cut short with the help of the local body.

C. THE OBJECTIVES OF NATIONAL CONVENTION

The objectives of the National Convention are as follows:

- To believe in myself and become a good human being
- To strengthen our belief in the Divine.
- To facilitate sharing God experiences about self & society
- To create a platform to share faith & life experiences on reality
- To understand positive & negative influences of media.
- To experience the life of successful personalities in the society
- To exchange and celebrate life of service and (effective Students’ Leadership
- To exchange the views on animation and training
- To create social consciousness among young teenagers
- To create value based attitude by exchange of life experiences and culture
- To promote the movement
- To make this movement deep rooted in all the dioceses of India
- To become change agents in the society

D. DYNAMICS OF THE CONVENTION:



1. Study sessions pertaining to the movement and its effectiveness in one's life and in the society.(based on the theme)
2. Group discussions will help everyone to voice their opinions and come to a consolidated idea which will be put into action.
3. Plenary sessions will help the participants to know the success stories of the people involved in this movement and has ranked high in society today.
4. Theological Reflections: Every observation will be looked in the faith dimension. Every Human person is the Image and likeness of God. The whole Review of Life is guided by Faith experience.
5. Animators and Student delegates will have separate sessions so that they can interact with the resource persons freely and in their own mindset.
6. There will be cultural exchange of all the regions and delegates so that it will help them exchange their views on the reality and society.
7. Liturgical & Inter religious prayer service will be organized so that people of all faith are given time to pray, understand each other and participate in their way of prayer life.
8. Through various group dynamics participants will be given chance to know each other and celebrate life experiences.

This Convention is planned and run by the student leaders themselves, assisted by the Animators.

to Believe, Begin... Become.

- 26TH MAY, 2017 | DON BOSCO SCHOOL, PARK CIRCUS



KEY NOTE ADDRESS



Dear Fr. Devraj Fernandes, Fathers, Sisters, distinguished guests and my dear student participants of YCS/YSM at this National Convention.

It is my pleasure to be with you this morning and I consider it a blessing to be in your presence. Your presence makes it all! It is youthful, vibrant, lively and action-oriented. The theme that is given to me to speak at this Convention is “Called to believe, to begin, to become.”

The topic is very Biblical and echoes the words of Jesus Christ. Jesus called his disciples to believe, to begin and to become messengers of love and peace. In the same way, each one of us is called:

To believe in God, to believe in oneself and to believe in others. This is what makes a community. Jesus said, “Where there are two or three gathered in my name, I am there. It is our belief in God and in one another, that makes us experience the presence of the divine in our midst and so, my young friends, let us begin our journey of believing in ourselves and in others. It is a difficult journey, yet, like Christ, we need to begin and follow his footsteps.

Secondly, we are called to begin. Lord Jesus Christ sent his apostles into the world and he said, “Go and preach the good news and I am with you”. They began their mission in which they believed. They spread the message of Jesus Christ all over the world and that is how we are here today as Christians. So, you are here to begin your journey of spreading the good news. You are in the company of Jesus, the journey is always pleasant. Every cross becomes a challenge when he is there. Every joy becomes an occasion of celebration when he is there, and so be confident that you are not alone in your journey, Christ is with you.

Jesus has made us Christians, disciples of Jesus. He has equipped us with knowledge, talents, qualities and various gifts. We have become what we are. We have to become his messengers and so we are on a journey to believe, to begin and to become Christ like. Each one of us is to become a leader. The church today needs us, the country needs us.

This very Convention is an opportunity for us to transform ourselves, and become true leaders. There are many people – Fathers, Sisters, Parents and Church Leaders, who accompany to see that as true leaders, we stand with Christ and achieve the mission entrusted to us.

Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, S.J.
Principal
St. Xavier’s College (Autonomous)
Kolkata



TREND SETTING YCS LEADERS



NGOs and Govt. departments organize many seminars and workshops with large number of participants from different parts of the country. Most of these events are financed by government, funding agencies or corporate houses. Expensive seminar kits and mementos are given to delegates. Renowned speakers and ministers are invited to address the gathering.. Presence of celebrities and political leaders attract media personnel to give extensive coverage of the event.

Most of these conferences and workshops gather large number of delegates by providing free travel, food and accommodation. The impact of these events in terms of follow up actions is very little because the delegates come without spending anything from their part.

The church also organises various events at the state and national level for different groups, such as youth, students and laity. The large number of youth and laity who come for these seminars are brought with the financial support of the parishes and dioceses. The organisers apply for financial support from various funding agencies, religious communities and local donors. Since the participants do not spend from their part they do not take part in the sessions seriously. Years ago I also did the same when I was organizing seminars and workshops for the Catholic youth and animators when I was the regional youth director.. In those days support was easily available from funding agencies.

From the time when I launched Universal Solidarity Movement I resolved that all the training programmes, seminars would be self financed. Participants, students, teachers and principals would pay for the full expenditure of the event. From the day one we had decided not to beg from any agency for organizing any seminars or conventions. For the last 24 years all the events were organized with the fee collected from the participants. Even the working children from the slums are motivated to participate in these events by paying the fee. When I shared this successful experiment with a bishop, his response was, “our people will never pay”. Another priest who was conducting many youth programmes over the last ten years said, “We will not get even Rs.50/- from our youth. If we expect the youth to pay we will not be able to conduct any programme”. He continues to get projects from funding agencies to conduct youth programmes.

The church regularly organises national and regional youth conventions with the help of agencies and sponsorship from religious communities and generous donors. Very little amount is collected from the participants as registration fee.

Recently I had been to Kolkata to address the animators and youth at the 2nd National convention of YCS/YSM (Young Christian Students / Young Student Movement). While talking with the National Chaplain, Fr. Chetan Machado, I was happy to know that the student leaders of the Movement raised Rs. 1,92,000/- by their personal initiative and effort from their respective regions. The young president of the Movement, Jesvita Princy Quadres from Mangalore worked hard to collect Rs. 40,200/- from her friends, relatives and some priests who knew her commitment to the student movement. Similarly student leaders of North East region could gather Rs. 70,000/- They also could mobilize over 150 delegates to participate in the convention. Natasha Ann Louis from Calcutta raised Rs.35,000/- other student leaders also gathered amounts like Rs, 5,000/-, Rs. 10,000/- and even Rs.2,200/- It was like

widow's mite put together with great commitment to their mission . The story of this commitment of young students should be a lesson to all who organize mega events with the support of the agencies. If all who are involved in the organisation are motivated fund raising will not be any problem. It is not necessary to beg from any agencies . The youth and laity should be motivated and challenged to safeguard their self respect by not depending on any one for their participation in any programme.



USM organises several large and small programmes every year. The participants know well that they have to contribute for the expenditure of the programme. This self supporting system is successfully experimented in all the training programmes organized at the local and national level .

The strength of any organisation depends on the commitment and loyalty of its members. They need to personalize its vision and objectives and work with dedication to realize them. Total transparency both in the organisational and financial matters, participation of all members in the planning and execution, regular evaluation together with all members will develop commitment and responsibility among the members. Donations may be accepted from those who know our work . However the culture of sending applications to agencies sitting in far away countries should be stopped . It is begging . Instead we need to maximize our efforts to pool the resources available abundantly within . The student leaders of YCS/YSM have showed the way .

Varghese Alengaden





CALLED TO BELIEVE, BEGIN... BECOME!

YCS/YSM INDIA

2ND NATIONAL CONVENTION KOLKATA 2017



21-27 MAY 2017 | DON BOSCO SCHOOL, PARK CIRCUS



This consists of the entire proceedings of the National Convention 2017 which was held at Don Bosco School, Park Circus in the month of May 2017. National Convention takes place once in three years. There are theme/thursts based study sessions, talks, workshops and serious discussions after which the National Team comes up with the theme for the next three years.





YCS/YSM INDIA



Called to believe, to begin... to become!

2ND NATIONAL CONVENTION

KOLKATA



21st -27th May, 2017 | Don Bosco School Park Circus

YCS/YSM INDIA II NATIONAL CONVENTION

21st – 26th MAY 2017
DON BOSCO SCHOOL,
PARK CIRCUS, KOLKATA

The II YCS/YSM National Convention was hosted by the West Bengal Region at Don Bosco School, Park Circus. The convention began on 21st May 2017 and culminated on 26th May 2017. The memorable programme began with registration and distribution of the registration kit to the delegates.

Day 1: 22nd May 2017 (Monday)

The day began with inter-religious prayer led by Ms. Grace Thomas and her team. Thereafter, Ms. Jesvita, the National President gave instructions to the delegates about participation and the code of conduct. This was followed by the delegates dispersing for breakfast.

After breakfast the delegates, DYD's, RYD's, and animators gathered in the ground for flag hoisting. The YCS/YSM flag along with the National Flag was hoisted in the presence of all the delegates and guests. The chief guest for flag hoisting was Most Rev. Thomas D'Souza, the Archbishop of Calcutta. The other dignitaries were Fr. Dominic, the Vicar General, Rev. Dr. J. Felix Raj, the Vice-Chancellor of St. Xavier's University and Sr. Prema, Mother General, Missionaries of Charity. This was concluded with the YCS/YSM clap.

After the flag hoisting, the group gathered in the auditorium for the Inaugural Mass. The main celebrant for the Mass was Most Rev. Thomas D'Souza, Archbishop of Calcutta. The Mass began with an introduction read by Mr. Prince. Archbishop Thomas D'Souza welcomed the delegates and asked them to

feel at home. He in a jovial and pleasant way encouraged students to learn and grow in this opportunity that they have got.

His Grace Archbishop in his homily during Mass said, 'The Lord takes delight in his people in a special way. Young People are filled with love, generosity and faith. He quoted Gandhiji, "My life is my message" and explained how Gandhiji loved the downtrodden people and never gave up on the moral value he believed in.



Another great example was, St. Mother Teresa who was selfless and extremely loving. Jesus teaches us to love others as he has loved us.'

He spoke about how the different people were blessed by the Holy Spirit which made them move mountains. He prayed and hoped that each of the YCSers also be blessed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. He emphasized that just like Jesus selected his disciples who were ordinary people, we too are ordinary students and are chosen to be here because the Lord delights in us.

In the end, he concluded by saying, 'Let us become faithful witnesses of God's love. Let us see with the eyes of faith, Judge with the eyes of hope and act with charity. Let's Believe, Begin and Become.'

After the Inaugural Mass, the gathering dispersed for tea break. This was followed by the official inauguration of the Convention. The guests for the inauguration were Most Rev. Thomas D'Souza (Archbishop of Kolkata), Mr. James Kujur (Hon. Minister of West Bengal) Fr. Dominic, Fr. Felix Raj (VC of St. Xavier's University), Fr. Michael (RYD, West Bengal Region), Fr. Chetan Machado (National Chaplain, YCS/YSM India), Fr. Devraj (DYD, Kolkata), Fr. Varghese Alangandan (Director, USM) and Mr. Sijo (National ICYM President). They were welcomed and honored by Ms. Jeswita.

Ms. Natasha and Mr. Xavier were the MCs for the evening. They introduced themselves and welcomed Ms. Mary RT to led the gathering in prayer.

The key note address was delivered by Fr. Felix SJ. In his address he said, YCS-YSM is a blessing, the students are youthful, lively and action oriented. 'Believe, Begin and Become' is a characteristic trait of a faithful believer. As young people we have to believe in ourselves and be the messengers of love and peace. The young people have started their journey in life. It will be difficult and challenging but if we believe in Jesus and ourselves life would be a pleasant journey. According to P, Sangma all of us are EIP i.e., Everyone is an Important Person; rather than VIP. Following the example of P, Sangma, we should



be faithful to our Church. We need leaders who are spiritually as well as academically sound. We need to be a leader who believes, begins and becomes. Today as leaders we need to stand with Christ. As we go on

living our lives as YCSers; we will grow and become great leaders.



This was followed by a series of cultural presentations performed by the LOC. This warm and hearty expression of theirs left the delegates feel welcomed and home like. Thereafter, gathering dispersed for lunch.

After a sumptuous lunch break the participants all gathered in their regions to put up their regional stalls. The zeal and rigor of the participants in an attempt to display their culture and practices was marvelous and commendable. This was followed by a tea break where delegates were encouraged to interact with participants of other states and get to know each other.

After this break, the participants all gathered in the auditorium for a brief orientation.

Ms. Jeswita spoke about what the National Convention is and how the former National Convention was organized and the outcome of it. She also explained the code of conduct expected by them during the convention and made special mentions of the matters to be kept in mind during the stay. Thereafter, Ms. Rachel, the National Secretary explained to the delegates the purpose of this convention. She in depth explained to them the aims and objectives of the convention (as stated in the handbook on page 15 and 16). Fr. Chetan towards the end, introduced the NEXCO to the delegates and informed the gathering that in any emergency the NEXCO could be contacted. Fr. Chetan also asked the gathering to be take full opportunity of this convention to learn and grow and make new friends.

This was thereafter followed by group dynamic activities organized by the NEXCO. The made the delegates dance to actions songs and the entire group enjoyed themselves to the core.

The delegates then dispersed and gathered in their regions to be briefed about the programme in their



own languages for students who did not understand. The regional gatherings felicitate and ensure that every participant understands what needs to be done during the programme.

Thereafter, all the participants gathered for the inauguration of the Exhibition. The guest for the evening Mr. Jagmohan Singh (IPS officer) and Mr. Janab Adeeb. (MLA of West Bengal). Fr. Chetan Machado, the National Chaplain, felicitated the guest and gave each of the guests a token of appreciation for sparing time to be with us.

Mr. Jagmohan Singh, the IPS officer shared his message about the importance of oneness and how it is the need of the hour. He shared that the very fact that so many students from across the country gathering together for this convention was symbolic of the oneness that the country needs as of now. He stressed on the idea that we need to know each other to appreciate the differences to make a peaceful society. He wished the delegates the best health and stay as they stayed in Bengal and also to be inspirational leaders and good human beings where ever they went.

Mr. Janab Adeeb thanked Fr. Devraj and Fr. Chetan for inviting him. He welcomed everyone coming from the different parts of the country and encouraged students to take the message and learning of this place to their own places.

The two guests inaugurated the exhibition where delegated had brought in things: materials, literature

and food items from their own regional places to be shared with others. There was great enthusiasm amongst the delegates, each one in their own way taking a little of the cultures with themselves.

After the exhibition the students all had dinner with a special ice cream treat. After dinner, the delegates gathered in the hall for a general evaluation which was conducted by Mr. Jimmy P dang, the former YCS/YSM National President. The students were given 3 questions to ponder up on:

1. What is the learning of the day that they had?
2. How many new friends did the delegates make?
3. What is that one good deed that the delegates did on the particular day?

The students then, some in groups, some individually answered the questions and submitted their feedback to the NEXCO. Thereafter, the regions were informed about their duties the next day and were asked to prepare for the same. The regions then dispersed to prepare for the programmes that they had to organize the following day.

The group finally called the day to a closure and all hit the bed.



Day 2: 23rd May 2017 (Tuesday)

The next day began with a Eucharistic celebration, where the main celebrant was Most Rev. Vincent Aind, Bishop of Bagdogra. The other celebrants were the DYDs and RYDs along with the National Chaplain. In the homily, Bishop Vincent first welcomed the delegates and asked them of their expectations of the National Convention and also as to what they look forward to in Kolkata. He then spoke about Wisdom as a gift of the Holy Spirit. He shared, that just like Solomon we too must get wisdom in our lives in

the form of a light. Unlike today money was not the most important thing. At that time, the knowledge and wisdom that the people had was considered as the most important possession. The knowledge that we get alone is not important, we must have wisdom as well. It was Jesus who turned the knowledge into wisdom for us. It is still easy to get this light into our lives, but the true challenge is to bring the Holy Spirit



into this light. He concluded by saying that ‘Called to Believe, Begin and Become’ is the source of life.

The Mass was followed by an inter-religious prayer conducted by the Jhansi Diocese, UP Region. After the prayer, the gathering disperses for breakfast.

The delegates after breakfast gathered in the auditorium and the former NEXCOs lead them in action songs to keep the participants on their feet. Then began the first session which was taken by Mrs. Charolette Simpson Veigas on the “Students’ Role in nation Building”.

She began by sharing her life experiences with the participants. She said that she too sat at where the students sat today listening to what leadership and transformation is. She shared how she was a part of YCS, AICUF and CSC. She said how each of these organizations contributed to building her as an individual to this day.

She believed that ‘Students are active participant in transforming the self’. She talked about how she built the understanding of students having active involvement in the learning and developmental processes which reflect well in a book titled ‘Pedagogy of the Oppressed’. She explained how the youth are geographically, economically, demographically and sociologically diverse yet have certain common characteristics across the world. She mentioned

the three important components to nation building: social cohesion, economic effectiveness and political stability. She explained how the youth have areas of participation towards nation building some of them being education, employment, hunger and poverty reduction, promoting gender equality, etc. She shared that the young people have a lot of energy, which must be actively channelized and that each youth has potentials and talents which must be harnessed which must be catered through active involvement of the young people at the micro level. Such young people according to her should be considered as an investment rather than a burden. She lay emphasis on how there are certain barriers to sustainability in youth involvement, they being, mindset, money and momentum.

The NEXCO members thanked and felicitated Mrs. Charolette for sparing her valuable time for us. The next session was on “Students’ Role in nation Building” by Mr. Solomon Nesakumar, an IPS Officer. He was welcomed and felicitated to the programme.

The speaker began by asking students what they wanted to become when they grew up. A few of the students gave responses as to who they wanted to be. Then followed the next question as to why the delegates had come for the National Convention.

The speaker shared that as long as the intention and thoughts of the individual are clean, then they are on the right track to nation building. He shared that Dr. Abdul Kalam believed in the students the most and that it was the students alone who could change the face of today. He then encouraged the young people to aspire for professions where they could come into decision making bodies, like the IAS, IPS and other important service groups which in a larger sense would contribute to the society. He said that he was glad that so many students attended the convention



and that he looks forward to the fact as to how many would take up a serious profession and do well in life in order to build the nation.



After this session the group dispersed for tea break. After the tea break, the delegates returned to the auditorium and the NEXCO conducted an animation session with delegates by asking them dance and sing to action songs.

The next session for the day was to be taken by Fr. Charles Menezes, IYCS Chaplain and former National Chaplain to YCS/YSM India. He began by referring to a statement made by one of the morning speakers. He said that the 'youth are in the photographs but not to be seen anywhere else'. He emphasized on the idea that nothing makes meaning or sense to the young people unless one does not relate it to the heart and love, because the young people when they do things, they operate on all actions through the use of heart. He shared that to be happy or not to be happy depends oneself. If anyone else governs ones' feelings, then they would have given themselves into the hands of the others. Thereafter, he asked the delegates if they knew what YCS is. The students responded by saying that:

- Young Catholic Students' movement
- It is a cell based movement
- A reflective methodology lifestyle

Then Fr. Charles shared two experiences where he saw young people doing extraordinary things their age to make a difference in the lives of the others. From these two stories he connected the idea that just like the migrant boy who set up a business of cocoa because that was need the of the hour and how a lady opened an organization to help other women get jobs was their heartfelt need, so too in a need

based circumstance was YCS born. And similarly, the convention was also organized because of the need to meet and communicate with YCS students to share their varied and rich experiences and learn from each other.

YCS was born in a circumstance where there was a fight between the rich and the poor. In such a situation the young people came together to share about their concerns and problems of their regular life.

Thereafter, Fr. Charles asked students to group themselves and share their daily concerns with each other. Then, the students also shared some of their concerns. From here, he said that YCS is platform to share our problems and be in attempt to find solutions for ourselves. He also told the students that possibly all problems may not be resolved but at least sharing would help in finding the probable solutions in a group which could not be found on ones own. Moreover, there are concerns that students often do not feel comfortable in sharing with their parents, but sharing with a friend of the same age group helps. He said that it may be possible that the decisions that the students take may not always be necessarily correct, but every mistake is leaning and experience. He concluded by saying that as long as there are problems in the lives of the students, YCS/YSM shall always exist.



After this session, the delegates gathered in their regional groups to discuss about the sessions that took place in the morning and also evaluate the day events until now. This was followed by lunch for everyone.

After lunch, the group gathered in the open area for group dynamics which was organized by the former NEXCOs.

The delegates then gathered again in the auditorium for the next session. The session on “Student Psychology



and YCS/YSM Spirituality” was taken by Fr. Anthony, SDB. He began with a certain list of issues that young people deal with. Some of the issues being:

- Sexual maturation
- Pronounced individual differences,
- Girls desiring to be pretty,
- Boys desiring to be strong and muscular,
- Seeking independence,
- Seeking adult equality,
- Concerned over spiritual issues and destiny, etc.

These were some of the topics, amongst the other topics. The speaker had asked representatives from each region to come up and take one or two topics and share their views about the same. Some of the views as shared by students are as follows:

- We undergo problems in the teenage years. We have a lot changes that happens in our lives at that point of time: physical as well as emotional. The elders are unable to understand our perspective.
- It seems that our friends tend to understand us more than our parents. They do not listen to us patiently.
- Boys and girls are differentiated and one receives more privilege compared to the other.

Many more such concerns were shared by the delegates and the representatives also in turns expressed their opinions on the issues that the speaker listed. The speaker also added relevant perspectives to the sharing of the delegates. Thereafter, the speaker spoke about the needs and interests of the young people. He made

mention of the following points:

- Acceptance by the peer group
- Vocational direction
- Assurance of security
- Wholesome activities or boundless energy
- Guidance which is kindly, unobtrusive and does not threaten the young person’s feeling of freedom

Towards the end he spoke about the Spirituality of YCS/YSM. He said that we have all seen and know the reality of the scriptures: Jesus as the truth and way of life. Now that we are aware of this, we need to be more responsible individuals when we are aware people. We all are aware of the state our country is in, hence the methodology that YCS uses would be most appropriate to understand the situation and act according to the need of the hour. After the session the delegates dispersed for a tea break.

After the break, the delegates gathered for the next session which was a panel discussion on “I am a responsible YCS/YSMer”. The former NEXCO members were a part of the panel- Mr. Jimmy, Ms. Sharon, Mr. Roshan, Ms. Angela, Mr. Kevin, Mr. Ebin, Ms. Ameyalata and Mr. Arman. The former NEXCO members shared their experiences with the delegates and explained to them how YCS made a difference to them and how it has become an integral part of their lives. They shared how YCS influenced their lives and help them become more reflective and aware individuals. This session concluded and was followed by tea break.

After a short tea and freshening up break the delegates gathered again for inter-religious prayer which was organized by Chhattisgarh and Goa region. This was followed by dinner and a cultural programme. The delegates yet again shared their culture with others



and celebrates togetherness. The day closed with Taize Prayer, a general reflection and feedback for the day and all dispersed to their room.



Day 3: 24th May 2017 (Wednesday)

The day began with the Eucharistic celebration offered by Fr. Michael from West Bengal. In his homily he said that in the recent times the newspaper would refer to individuals as Hindu, Muslim, and Christian in the news. But it is important to understand why are they call individuals with their religious identity. He implied that we all are then identified so and are then also in a certain way the chosen ones. He gave another example saying that if you want to play football you can play but you cannot choose a blind person to to play football so similarly if one is known as a Christian then it is to tell the world that you are the chosen one and to tell them your story. He said the word 'shepherd' is very important in a life of a Christian as that was a way how Jesus lived his life as a leader and set an example for us all. But it is important to see who is the shepherd, now as each one of us are called to be a shepherd to take care of people around us. If one wants to be a good shepherd then one must have a clear goal in your life and also prioritize the different aspects in ones' life. He concluded by saying that each one of us must carefully listen to our call and fulfil the purpose of our life. The conclusion of mass took place and then followed the inter-religious prayer service conducted by North East and Odisha regions.

The delegates then dispersed for breakfast which was followed by action song and animation session being conducted by the Karnataka Region. The serious programmes and sessions for the day was to begin soon.

The National Secretary, Ms. Rachael welcomed Fr. Joseph to the convention. Fr. Joseph during his session said that we must never be late as we all are students and are in stage to learn things. To share his thoughts, he first showed the students a video about the educational status of the Indian citizens, by Dr. Shashi Tharoor. He laid emphasis on what the social media is doing and helped students understand whether it is good or bad for them. He shared how the influence of mobile phones is so much so that parents do not get time to spend with their children and at times, the children also back out to spend time with the parents. His talked reflected that the media irrespective whether we want it or not will be there for a while. It depends on us if we control it or it controls us. He showed the second video which shows the future digital technology. He spoke about the advantages of the digital transformation; the value lesson for a happy life which is when you follow the technology in the right way, and that its all about how and why we use the technology. He asked the students if we are as a human race are we ready for an exponential change, the change that is to come.



Fr. Joseph was thanked and felicitated for the tie he spared for, for the students.

The next session was to be taken by Mrs. Monideepa Banerjee. She being a journalist walked the students through the profession of journalism and also informed the students about its pros and cons. She spoke how social media makes us so much closer than we normally are. She shared how the first ever cell phones were then huge, was way back in 1996 when she had her first ever cell phone, which again was given by her company. The device then turned her into a slave because the work expected them to be on phone all the time; it was a 24 x 7 duty. She even shared some



of her experiences. She even told the delegates about the Black Web, a page where illegal activities took place. She shared how the behavior and thoughts of the people change when they use the social media and the entire perspective of how one can become an addict. There are media pit falls that we must attempt to avoid.

This was followed by a lunch break for the students and after lunch the students also gathered for a refresher and animation session where they sang and danced to escape the lazy siesta feeling.

The next session was taken by Mr. Paul Jacob. He shared his life and experience of YCS. In the initial years, as he said finding his identity was important. He shared that had received two gifts from YCS. It gave him an identity and develop critical thinking skills and help open up as an individual. He said that one would not be able to see these changes and transformation right now but rather would be able to see all this much later in life. He had a list of questions which students would answer. He then shared how family is important and the role that family plays in each of our lives. He spoke about how some are related to you by blood but some are part of your life because you chose them. He went onto explaining certain important relations and how it influences us and why it is important in our lives. He also talked about the changing forms of a relationship. He explains how the relationship with our parents is very different when we are children and how it changes as we become adolescents and then young adults. He talks about the dynamics between people changes when there is a change in the age of the individuals and the dynamics of the time zone. He concludes by saying that we in our own ways must spend time with our parents, not assume what is happening rather accept the way they are and appreciate the things that they do for us.

At the closure of this session Mr. Manoj Mathew helped the delegates to culminate and collate the basic understanding of the sessions that took place from the morning. He also helped the students analyze and process the information that they received. He built the discussion on the following points:

- The positive things that one can learn from media
- The values that one would like to build or nourish

This was followed by the lunch. Group dynamics was conducted after lunch region wise based on celebrating diversity among the delegates and also help them interact with people of other regions.

The post lunch session was taken by Sr. Karina from the Missionaries of Charity. She shared a message from Sr. Prema. The message spoke about a person must become an individual who would help bring a difference in the lives of the people. Mother Teresa loved Jesus and she wanted people to know about him. She had an ardent love for him and was always in touch with him and encouraged the delegates to also be in touch with themselves that spoke of Jesus. Jesus resides in each one of us because we all are special and precious. Thereafter, they shared a power-point presentation and some videos that showed the delegates about the life and works of Mother Teresa and how her life was dedicated to Jesus and for the



service of the poor and the destitute.

The conclusion of this session led to tea break for all.

The session followed by the tea break was an inter-religious panel discussion on the title 'United in One God- Peace makers'. The panel had people of different faiths who were to share their experience and opinions about the multi-religious nature of India.

Ms. Ghazala Yasmin shared that the word 'Allah' says peace begins with you friends. She shared that Islam is not about terror, but its all about peace. A sense of fear arises in one, when one hears about the word "jihad". She explains that the work means- a struggle to fight to overcome evil. According to her there are some who think killing others is jihad and she firmly believes that it is foolish to think so. No religion can



teach that killing others will be the ultimate aim. God created the world and he know what to do with it. He created man and woman equally and he created everything unique. None of his race is superior to the other.

Mr. A.P. Singh said that essence of Christianity lies in loving one another. He shared that in Calcutta students are raised mainly in convent schools which is the heart of state. He feels that we have a chance to make the country into a better place. According to him the purpose of the religion is to make people happy and to spread the peace.

Ms. Parmila Ghosh said that she belong to a city where religion is the ray of life. When you talk about the knowledge of dharma, the knowledge of religion will teach you what is right and wrong. The theory of dharma says that the purpose of mother nature is to deliver happiness to every person. It is time to open our mind, to open our way, to study and understand dharma. Today's youth are not ready to understand the holy books and scriptures of their own religion. Religion is not only about worship, rather it is to celebrate the way of life. It is interesting to note that all the religious book talk about peace in their own unique way. A real person who is considered above a social religious society should not depend upon a single religious culture. She requested everyone to read all the religious scriptures so that an individual can get better understanding about all the religions

way of life.

After the sharing session of the panelists, there was an open house session where the delegates could ask the panelists questions.

Some of the questions that arose were:

- Why are there more restrictions on women compared to men in the religion of Islam?

It was shared that restrictions are there in all religions including Hinduism and Christianity. There is an element of negativity in all the religions regarding supernatural beliefs and there have been scientific reasons to cover them. Education is a powerful tool to change everything. Religion only goes to the people who believe it.

- We all know that there is only one god, then why do we have to follow different religion?

We all cannot eat the same food. We all are not born in the same place. We all cannot live in the same geographical area. We all were brought up in various places. Similarly, every religion has been formed in a different era. It depends upon our knowledge to put up the religion in our mind.

The panel discussion closure took place with the moderator thanking the panelists. The delegates were then asked to sit in groups and share the learning of the day in their regions. After a while they were asked to gather together and prepare for a pilgrim walk to the tomb of St. Teresa.

The walk was a symbolic gesture to show the world about solidarity, prayer and peace. Once the delegates reached the tomb of St. Teresa, M.P. and Northern Region organized an inter-religious prayer service at



the tomb. The delegates had a beautiful experience and after the exposure they walked back to the venue. Once back, the delegates freshened up and went for

dinner. The dinner was followed by another cultural programme organized by the Odisha, North-east, Northern and Karnataka regions. After an energetic cultural performance, the evaluation of the day began in region wise and each the delegates were to share their learning.



Day 4: 25th May 2017 (Thursday)

The day began with holy mass which was celebrated by Fr. Charles Menezes, the international YCS chaplain.

The mass was followed by inter-religious prayer organized North-East and Odisha regions. This was followed by a sumptuous breakfast.

The day began with a session conducted by Fr. Jyoti SJ on the 'Changing political graph, social consciousness – my response to social values and personal convictions.' He shared that the boys and girls are the future pillars of the church and the country. Life is centered around the church and God is the giver and protector. He showed an emotional picture of a person who died because of tuberculosis, due to his working environment in a tea garden. About 2 lakhs 50 thousand girls are working there who are at the risk of acquiring the same problem. UNICEF says that 45% of Indian children are malnutrition. He also listed many data regarding the poverty structure of the state. Students need to observe the political situations happening in our country. Are our students ready to take on simple challenges like giving their own footwear to a person who does not have one. The society is unequal, filled with ups and downs of life, and people are both rich and poor. Majority of the Indians do not even have their own land. He also compared people like Bill Gates and Warren

Buffay who spend their profit for the good of the people. Students of modern era want to come out of the comfort level to pinpoint the injustices that exist in the society. The session then culminated and the speaker was thanked a felicitated. This was followed by a tea break.

The next session was taken by Fr. Varghese Alengaden, director of USM. Father said he was not at all tired, even after working with young people for the past 31 years of his life. He feels young with every encounter that he has with young people. He strongly believes that students are the pillars of tomorrow's church and the country. Most fundamentalists brainwash the people with the grounds of religion and culture. People get confused in various perspective when they see and hear about different perspectives. He also quoted some leaders to express their personal perspectives upon the nation. He said that if you want to become a great person you have to think big. He also said that dreaming small is a crime. If one dies today what would you expect the people to talk about them. Closing his session, he said that, each one of us is an incarnation of God. Ycs/ysm is a change to the future. This country will change only if we begin to learn and we have to take charge of ourselves.

The next session was taken by Mr. Manoj Mathew. He shared his views upon the whole idea of manifestation of love. Charity does not mean only to feed the hunger. We all can practice charity in our schools, homes, and



in our immediate environment. Just like what Gandhi would have done if he was here, or what Jesus would have done. He asked the delegates to discuss amongst themselves about the kinds of charity they can do to the society. Thereafter, students shared their views and

ideas regarding how they can show/do their charity. The culmination of this session led to a lunch break. After the lunch break, Mr. Sijo, the National ICYM president was asked to share his experience about the 2nd National Convention. He said that his journey



was an unexpected one. He wonders how students are trained to be so smart and active. And he also shared his personal experience of his journey in the youth ministry.

As the official convention was at a closure, Mr. Jimmy Pdang, the former YCS president conducted the evaluation session for 2nd YCS-YSM National Convention. Thereafter, Ms. Jesvita asked Ms. Aparna, former National coordinator to share the Convention statement. Ms. Aparna read out the convention statement and the delegates deliberated

on it and the final statement was prepared.

This was followed by a small sapling planting drive, where the NEXCO along with the National Chaplain planted a few saplings in the convention venue. After this, the gathering dispersed for tea break and headed on to prepare the culmination cultural programme. The delegates then all gathered for the cultural programme and a sumptuous dinner. All the participants and organizers were then felicitated for all the efforts they put into making the Convention happen. The day ended on a very happy note for everyone and all went to bed.

Day 5: 26th May 2017 (Friday)

The day began with a Eucharistic celebration by Fr. Devraj.

In his homily he shared that just like Jesus prepared his disciples in his last days, similarly in the last days of the convention, we all students must prepare ourselves to take the message of peace and solidarity to our places where we have come from. He wished and prayed for the all of the young people to grow and be successful. He also said that the path to success won't be easy might come with pain. But all of us in the end would only have to Believe, Begin and Become... in reality in our real world. The change has to come from our self..

The delegates then dispersed for breakfast, packed their bags and bid farewell to one another.

YCS/YSM INDIA
cordially invites you to

II NATIONAL CONVENTION

WELCOME TO KOLKATA

DON BOSCO
Park Circus
21 - 26 May 2017



Mark your calendar and book your tickets today

NATIONAL THEME
CALLED TO BELIEVE – BEGIN – BECOME
Thrusts
Back to the roots: media & me: Restoring human dignity

Contact Address:
YCS/YSM National working Office, Yusuf Sadan, Gole Dak Khana
1 Ashok Place, New Delhi - 110001; Mob: 9891792505
Email: ycsysmndia@gmail.com; Website: www.ycsysmndia.com, https://www.facebook.com/ycsysmndia

YCS/YSM INDIA
**YOUNG CATHOLIC STUDENTS
YOUNG STUDENTS MOVEMENT**

Sponsorship Proposal
FOR
2nd YCS/YSM NATIONAL CONVENTION
at Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkata
FROM 21 TO 26 May 2017

Theme: "CALLED TO BELIEVE; BEGIN; BECOME"

HOST
YCS/YSM, Kolkata

ORGANIZED BY
YCS/YSM INDIA

YCS/YSM NATIONAL OFFICE
ARCHDIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTRE,
25 ROSARY CHURCH ROAD, SANTHOME, CHENNAI – 600004
Phone: MOB: + 91 9891792505 (Fr. Chetan Machado)
Email: ycsysmndia@gmail.com Website: www.ycsysmndia.com

A unit of
CBCI OFFICE FOR YOUTH
CBCI Centre, 1-Ashok Place
Gole Dak Khana, New Delhi-110001

YCS/YSM INDIA



AIM
BUILDING A NEW SOCIETY

OBJECTIVE
CHANGE SELF - CHANGE OTHERS



SEE
JUDGE
ACT



**II NATIONAL CONVENTION
KOLKATA**

Delhi: Yusuf Sadan, 1- Ashok Place,
New Delhi - 110001
Chennai: Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre,
25 Rosary Church Road,
Santhome, Chennai, 600004
E-mail: ycsysmndia@gmail.com;
chetan0812@gmail.com
website: www.ycsysmndia.com



**YOUNG CATHOLIC STUDENTS
YOUNG STUDENTS MOVEMENT - INDIA**
25 Rosary Church Road, Santhome, Chennai - 600004


Certificate of Participation


Mr./Miss.....of.....Region
has participated in the IInd National Convention organized by YCS/YSM India
from 21 - 26 May 2017 at Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkata.


Ms Jesvita Quadras
National President, YCS/YSM India

Fr. Chetan Machado
National Director, YCS/YSM India

Theme : Called to believe, begin, become

SEE 

JUDGE 

ACT 

**YOUNG CATHOLIC STUDENTS/
YOUNG STUDENTS MOVEMENT**

INVITES YOU TO

II YCS/YSM National Convention
May 21 - 26, 2017
Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkata



Theme:
"Called to believe; become, begin"

(Back to the roots - Media & me - Restoring human dignity)

YCS/YSM National Office
Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre, 25 Rosary Church Road,
Santhome, Chennai - 600004
Ph. No. +91-9891792505, Email: ycsysmndia@gmail.com
website: www.ycsysmndia.com
YCS/YSM is an unit of CBCI Council for Youth

Fr. Chetan Machado
National Chaplain
9891792505

Ms. Rachel Patricia
National Secretary
9962435287

Ms. Jesvita Quadras
National President
8150862940

YCS/YSM INDIA

2nd National Convention
"Called to Believe, to Begin, to Become"

21st-25th May 2017, Don Bosco School, Kolkata



Statement of II National Convention 21st – 26th May 2017

We, the YCS/YSM delegates 438 in total, representing 11 Regions of YCS/YSM India, gathered at Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkata for the II National Convention on the theme “Called to Believe; Begin; Become” hosted by the Archdiocese of Calcutta, West Bengal Region from 21-26 May 2017; to meet in fellowship, to share our life experiences and learn from each other through the YCS way of life.

Through the input sessions by the resource persons, peace rally to the Mother House, discussions, panel sessions and workshops, we reflected together on the theme echoing the methodology of the movement – Awareness, Reflection, Action and Evaluation (See, Judge and Act), and declare this Theme Statement. ‘Called to Believe, Begin and Become’ is a divine call to every YCS/YSMer that emanates from within to change oneself in order to make a difference in the society to build the Kingdom of God.

We the YCS/YSMers are called in a special way to BELIEVE in the mission of witnessing and evangelising the divine love for the entire human race. Our active participation in the convention has enabled us to change our ‘Self’ to transform the society. Acknowledging the fact, that in the present day a lot of emphasis is laid on media and the virtual world, we realise its importance and utilize the technological resources to bring about a positive change.

We understand that our families and community support one another for a harmonious living. To BEGIN to experience the transformation of the self and society, human dignity and love for fellow human beings is a priority in our daily life, irrespective of age, caste, creed, religion and region. Such differences that exist in a multi-cultural nation like ours is a blessing and an asset enabling us to celebrate the unity in diversity.

The process of BECOMING involves developing the values of love, equality, freedom and justice, and living up to the virtues of mutual respect and dignity.

We, YCS/YSMers, thus commit to become responsible persons sensitive to the needs of others embracing the spirituality of the movement. We pledge to keep up the spirit of YCS/YSM India with the motto of changing self and changing others to build a new society, ‘God’s Kingdom’.

Issued on 25th May 2017 during the National Convention of YCS/YSM India held at Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkata.

- Aparna babu, Ebin Navis & fr. Ronald

YCS/YSM IIND NATIONALCONVENTION, KOLKATA 2017

Note: This overall evaluation is based on the 'Objectives & Evaluation Questionnaire' by the delegates of the Second YCS YSM National Convention. It has been consolidated, shortlisted and simplified for better understanding. Most of the phrases of the delegates are quoted as it is to preserve the essence and the freshness of the words.

1. Positive Impressions of the Convention

- Became aware of the Society and the present Situation we live in.
- Inspired to value our life in a positive way.
- Peace Walk to Mother Theresa's Tomb for a Solidarity Prayer was Inspiring and made us realize that there is more to life.
- Came to know the diversity of many regions, their cultures and languages and the unity of Our Glorious nation.
- Happy to get to know new friends from all over India.
- Inspired through the eminent Resource Persons and learnt moral values.
- Came to understand the magnanimity of the movement in the International level.
- Accommodation, food, time table, resource persons, action songs, cultural programs etc were good and inspiring.
- Happy to see a movement conducted by students themselves.
- The topics chosen were perfectly associated to the present relevant to the society.
- Learnt how to manage people and things.
- Learnt how to work as a team by witnessing the unity of the NEXCOS.

2. Key Learning of the Convention

- Learnt that we are called to believe in change, by changing ourselves is the only solution to build a new India.
- Realized students' impact on the society and Animators are called for a mission.
- Was fortunate to Understand the Values of an Animator through the Journey of an Animator in Jesus of Nazareth.
- Understood that the power of education is changing the lives of many.
- Witnessed that God inspires oneself and works within me.



- Learnt how to think out of the box.
- Identified that Change begins from me.
- Realized that I exist to act, not that I exist to exit.
- Change is more possible when we work as a team.
- It has given a small platform to think differently to do something for others in my diocese.
- I have gained more courage and confidence in speaking to others and expressing my views in public.
- I realized my vision and my call for life.

3. Do you think we have achieved the objectives of this convention?

- Yes, 40% of the Convention participants believe that they have achieved the objectives, whereas the remaining 60% believes that the objectives are only achievable when we start applying what we have learnt from the Convention in our real life and it takes time.

4. What changes would you bring about in your life and others?

- Conducting regular cell meetings in the unit based on the methodology of the movement.
- By doing ordinary things in an extraordinary way.
- Anger and enmity are not always helpful in bringing change and peace in the society.
- Learnt to love my religion and to respect others religious views.
- By respecting my parents and the elders in my family and school.
- By thinking differently from others.
- "I go back as a renewed person with renewed belief to build a world with a mission to make a difference to wherever and whomever I am sent".



5. Opinion about Arrangement and Resource Person

- The other arrangements were good.
- It's difficult to find such convenient place for a convention, Thanks for the arrangements.
- Well planned time table and arrangements. Felt comfortable like at home.
- Happy to get cold water in the venue.
- Food was excellent.
- Local travel arrangement was organized in a better way.
- Resource persons were chosen well.
- Happy to interact with the resource persons since some of them were available till the end of the Convention.

6. Opinions & Suggestions

- The heat made us feel tired.
- Serious talks should have been avoided after lunch.
- The LOCs and volunteers should have also attended the program when free.
- Should have given more time for the resource persons and more time for questions and clarification.
- Some of the resource persons went out of the topic and very few couldn't come to the level of the students.
- Few distractions and moving around by the delegates could have been avoided. Animators could have taken more responsibility as regards this.
- More inspiring videos could have been shown.

7. Are you happy about your participation?

- Happy! Satisfied! Proud! Fortunate! Blessed!
- Unimaginable that I have participated in the IInd YCS YSM National Convention
- Big thanks to Fr. Devraj and the LOCs.
- A million thanks to Fr Chetan Machado, volunteers, former NEXCOS, former Chaplains and the present National EXCOS.
- Our respectful gratitude to Most Rev. Henry Dsouza.

Altogether answering to the questions asked whether they are happy, 70% of the participants ended with the very word Yes; 15% added Of course, Yes! And 15 % walked an extra mile to say,

"I LOVE YOU ALL! I LOVE YCS YSM & YCS YSM LOVES ME!!!"

A Moment I will be Happy Forever!

I always had been fascinated by journey I make through and this time I decided to travel to Nagpur to meet some good YCS friends who are part of my family. I decided and the moment it was Nagpur, I had one feeling I will try to Meet Fr. Johnny, Former National Chaplain who is retired presently, decided to set on my travel to Nagpur and made a visit to all my people Alice Anthony, Melwin Titus, Former NEXCOS and Sabrina Philip and Glory Yakub who I last met in an NSLTP, Kanyakumari in 2011 and other well wishers, then decided to go meet Fr. Philip Topno, Regional Chaplain of YCS/YSM who happily received me and thanked him for his service to YCSYSM, it was even a special day where I was part of the Children's Day celebration of the school which he is heading. We then decided to go meet Fr. Johnny, reached the St. Charles Seminary but found that he had been out for a visit, sad we then decided to have breakfast and went in to meet Sabrina Philip, ex YCS'er and had spent some time. On our return back we came back again to see whether Father had reached, we reached the place and asked and found out that he had reached, I had a sigh of anxiety, I am meeting the man who redefined YCS, and the one who fought it hard for the birth of YSM, and there was a voice which still was so Young and so energetic, saw him and literally had tears in me. Saying to myself ' I have finally Met' , (The Moment I will be happy forever), Looking at his charisma and the way he received was still at great happiness, father had been happy to see and receive all of us and was in much delight since I introduced myself that I come from Chennai, fondly recalling that the Catholic Centre where our Old Office was and the small hotel adjacent to it where even all workers were part of the YCS family, then said that he will make tea and we will celebrate, we were delighted and on inquiring about his health he said growing young and still energetic, we then made tea and started our

celebration, I started sharing of the recent updates of the programs that took place from YCSYSM India and he was happy and was filled with Joy on sharing of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

I then started asking him some questions which I was more than happy that he recalled everything.



1. Father, Way back in your time we had a world council in which we had a question of the acceptance of YSM? Can you recall and share what had happened?

Kamal, (Had a wide Smile) I am sorry I will, but whatever I remember! We had been for the World Council, I, George Joseph, Sr. Jeanne, Christy Michael had been representing the Indian YCS, where we had a forum where we presented the YSM Context, we had a great battle ahead, other countries had never supported and it was not tough but we had a great time, there were discussions that went for hours and hours without breakfast nor lunch nor even dinner in that matter. It was finally a question where a priest raised does YSM accept Christ, then our Christy Michael intervened in between Father , Your Question is accepting Christ, and My name is Christy, I AM CHRIST, You Know those words changed the mindset of everyone , George Joseph was so happy was clapping all through even though he didn't understand anything!. They had a discussion of all Chaplains and we concluded it by which YSM was accepted. It was indeed a turning point in YCS/YSM, I am happy you asked me, I am joyous I recalled it. You may even look at the report of it where you can find a lot more. This was just a small I remember.

2. Your First Moment when you met Sr. Jeanne!

We met in 1965 and i Still remember she came to Archbishop's House and then met Bishop Raymond

and then came to meet me, I already had a fight with a sister and was walking with much anger, She came, I didn't realise, she asked me whether can I meet Fr. John, and I replied I am Fr. John and she said about I have come to see about Youth work and the Archbishop said that you are the right person to contact. I've just come in from fighting with one sister about the youth, and now you come to talk about Youth! She has just complained about me..! What is your complaint? (Err.) Er... I have no complaint. I'm sorry you had a fight about the youth. That is what I have come about to find someone who can take up their cause and lead them. I am interested in the Young Christian Students Movement. I have just come from Jabalpur by Bus, where Bishop Leobard promised to get one priest to look after the same. Here, I have just one cyclostyled sheet with me. You may try this sheet with a few students. As soon as I get back to Madras, I will send you some more. I have to catch a train now to Madras. Sister, the train to Madras leaves us within half-an-hour. You are going by that train. Have you a ticket?.. You'll get one, now and reservation! (Calmly) I will get one! Then i quickly took her and we reached the station, the train was departing, quickly took her to the unreserved seat, and she went inside I quickly pushed her luggage brought her something and gave her along and she went. You may find some time soon to go meet her.

3. Amidst YCS/YSM in a Question of Relevance with Tuitions, Peer-Pressure and Exams, Pressure from Parent? What you would suggest Father as a Solution?

Simple! SEE-JUDGE-ACT! See Kamal, I believe the world is Changing and all need to adjust and move ahead, or else we be stagnated by it. YCSYSM was, is and forever a movement of Change, a movement that will change and I believe we need to start experimenting in small groups! We need to look ahead in small groups,



changing them, through them the others change and it spreads like anything. That is how Sr. Jeanne started her life when she picked street children when she came to Chennai and experimented and change clicked and it spread.

So Forever SEE-JUDGE-ACT will be the best Solution, but it will take a lot of time.

4. You're Message for YCS/YSM Members?

Greetings to each of You! Kamal Francis just dropped in to see me and requested a message for you. I joyfully proclaim that YOU-YCS/YSMers are the WHATSAPP of Today! WHATSAPP? Who says so? Cardinal Joseph Cardijn said 50 Years ago. I am just joyfully recalling that message. It was he who said SEE; JUDGE; ACT. Today you are the WHATSAPP that sees things, events, and people around you! You then get together to reflect and judge on what you see! And then you Act. You shout and proclaim! Wow! That's great! Let's DO THAT! , So wake up ! Get-up together in your small cells and see and share the WHATSAPP going on in your mind and scream out your WOW! In some wow filled actions in your units!

Ciao! Sayanora! Firmelenge! Bye!

5.You're Message for EX- YCSYSM Members?

Kamal Francis, Melvin Titus and Alice Anthony delightfully surprised me with their visit and we shared a cup of tea with memories of old and new full timers and members and asked for a message!. A Message for Old Timers! I consider myself to be the oldest timer ever! What better message could I give than that of Cardinal Joseph Cardijn: See; Judge; Act and the Review of Life!! Technically we are the WhatsApp of the Movement; Reflecting and Reviewing our Memories and Actions of the Past! Come Lets join the latest craze of selfies seeing ourselves and individuals as small groups sharing and evolving and planning out strategies a Jesus told us; Launch out into the deep. Lk:5/4. I recall now that Rabindranath Tagore poetized this prayer : Where the Mind is without fear and the head is held high: Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever widening thought and action; Into that heaven of freedom my father , let my country awake! Pg: 61 of Gitanjali! And I am reminded of our Modern "Hum Honge Kammiyab"

I then thanked Fr. Johnny for his wonderful time sharing with us the best moments of YCSYSM of his time. ❖

YCS/YSM India - III NTA/EXCO MEET

Dates: 20th – 21st May, 2017

Venue: St. Antony's Shrine, KOLKATA

No. of Participants: 21

No. of National Team Members: 6

No. of NTA/EXCO: 12

No. of REGIONS: 7

No. of Former NEXCOS: 4

No. of Animators: 1

No. of LOCS: 12

Fr. Devraj Fernandes (Archdiocesan Chaplain and local host, Sr. Gouri Sardar (Archdiocesan coordinator), Former NEXCOs and LOC's attended this meeting



DAY: - 1-20th May 2017 (Saturday)

The third NTA/EXCO meeting was held at St. Antony's School, Kolkata from 20th May to 21st May 2017. The meeting began at 09:00 am with a prayer by Pradeep Raj (NEXCO TN). Mr. Jeris Joseph, National Treasurer (UP) welcomed the participants. Ms Jesvita, National President addressed the gathering and explained the importance of this meeting. After the roll call, Ms Raichel presented the minutes of the previous meeting. Minutes and Agenda for the meeting were passed thereafter.

Ms Raichel also presented the report of activities held after the last NT/EXCO meeting which was followed by the reports from different regions. There was a discussion after this on some activities and concerned regions clarified the matter. After this all the regions were asked to explain the status of YCS/YSM in their regions. Ms Jesvita started the discussion. She said that YCS/YSM is very active in her region. There are a few dioceses where there is no YCS/YSM and efforts are made to begin YCS there. Rachel from TN Region reported that though there is YCS/YSM Movement very strong in her region, students lack support and communication doesn't reach. Therefore meetings are not well attended. Mr. Jeris from UP region said that the movement is slowly picking up in his region and it will be active in the coming days. Ms. Natasha and Ms. Akansha from WB region said, movement exists only in Kolkata and they are trying their best to spread this to other dioceses. Mr. Rikam and Mr. Wajiri from NE Region said that they face a lot of problems in the region in terms of traveling from faraway places. So coordination becomes difficult. Mr. Ravi and Ms Roshini from MP Region explained that the movement is becoming active day by day and is spreading to other dioceses in the region as well. They also shared their experience of the last convention which was held in Bhopal. Mr. Alex from Bihar Region shared his problem and difficulties as he doesn't get any support from the authorities. Mr. Pradeep and Ms Abhinisha from TN Region said that movement is good and strong in their region.

After a good discussion on the status of YCS/YSM in different regions, Fr. Chetan, National Chaplain explained about the financial status of YCS/YSM. He informed about the registration process and funds raised for the national Convention. All the Representatives gave their update on funds raised

and submitted to the treasurer. Thereafter, an update was taken from various committees on the work done so far. Committees were formed at the last meeting and new people were given responsibility to assist the committees.

There were nine committees:

Ms. Jesvita (NP) Documentation
Ms. Raichel (NS) Resource Persons (hospitality)
Ms. Natasha (Food)
Ms. Roshni –Cultural Programme and Liturgy
Mr. Xavier and Mr. Wajiri – Transportation
Ms Vanshika- Hospitality and Medical
Mr. Ravi & Ms Abhinisha – Stage and Sound
Ms. Akansha & Mr. Jeris – Accommodation & reception
Mr. Rikam – registration



After a quick tea break all gathered once again for the second session. During this time, preparatory document was discussed to check the last minute preparation. Each region spoke about their preparedness in terms of number of participants, animators and coordinators, number of delegates, funds collected and preparation of liturgy and cultural programme.

Fr. Chetan explained about the forthcoming National events. Following are the National YCS/YSM events which would take place.

II national NEXCO live in programme in Bangalore in the month of June/August
NATP (national Animators Training programme in Delhi from 10th July to 15th July 2017
NSLTP (National Student Leadership Training Programme)
National Council 2019 in Goa

Fr. Chetan clarified some doubts on these upcoming events before finalizing.

As participants broke for lunch, Ms. Jesvita, Ms. Rachel, Fr. Chetan, Fr. Devraj and Ms Natasha left for the press conference. Press release was given out at the press meet addressed by Fr. Chetan, Fr. Devraj and Ms. Jesvita. Fr. Rodney and Vicar General of the archdiocese of Kolkata were present.

At 3 pm, all gathered for the post lunch session. Ms. Natasha, editor of ‘The Search’ newsletter explained about the newsletter and requested participants to collect more subscriptions. She also asked them to contribute in terms of articles, poems etc.

At 4 pm. Ms Rachel read out all the decisions taken during the meeting and gave a briefing on all the matters discussed. Fr. Chetan gave his concluding remarks and Fr. Devraj also addressed the participants. Ms Jesvita thanked all and meeting concluded with the prayer by West Bengal Region and YCS/YSM National anthem.

Long Live YCSYSM!

Raichel Patricia-National Secretary



WEST BENGAL REGION

The **commitment day** was held on 1st May 2017 at St Mary's School Ripon street at 9:30 am. After the registration, students and animators were welcomed. Students conducted the opening prayer and Bible reading. Fr. Devraj Fernandes welcomed everyone. There was a session by the vice principal of St Mary's School on the qualities that a young Christian leader should inculcate in oneself. Soon after that the animators were called for the felicitation and thanksgiving for their whole hearted support and for their contribution towards strengthening the YCS movement in Kolkata which was followed by the presentation of the DEXCOs to the assembly by the animators.

The animators introduced the nominees to the dexco team and the students also gave a brief introduction about themselves .

Followed by this, the students were taken for the election. The elections were conducted through secret ballots.



- The office bearers are:
1. Anthony Thomas. President
 2. Prince Akash Mondal. V.P.
 3. Christina Gomes. Secretary
 4. Aaron Daniel Glass. Jt. Secretary
 5. Chynelle Ann Sayer Treasurer
 6. Angelica Florian. Joint Treasurer
 7. Glenn Gomes Public relation organizer
 8. Srinjika Veronica Pandey. Public relation organizer & Liturgy In charge
 9. Sonali Soreng Media Manager
 10. Shreya Soreng Media Manager
 11. Stanley J. Gomes - Member

12. Arup Anthony Sarkar -Member
13. Akash Vaibhav Linda Member

Soon after the election the new office bearer took oath followed by the pledge by all the YCS members. Handing over ceremony was conducted by our YCS diocesan Chaplain Fr. Devraj which was followed by the Eucharistic celebration and with the thanksgiving speech and the introduction to the convention by Fr. Devraj the days program ended.

❖
- *Natasha Louis*

Meeting cum Interaction

Mr. Richard IYCS secretary from France visited India (Delhi) during his visit to Asia. He stayed in Yusuf Sadan at Archbishop's House Campus. On 1st July , YCSers from 4 parishes of Delhi gathered at Yusuf Sadan to interact with Mr. Richard. The interaction went well and lively. Mr. Richard asked the students about their activities in the parish and how do they conduct cell meetings? How often they meet? YCSers also shared their testimonies and experiences. YCSers also asked many questions to Mr. Richard about his visits , his work , his ycs life etc. At the end of interaction Mr. Manoj Matthew Delhi ycs coordinator gave a vote of thanks to Mr Richard followed by closing prayer and distribution of refreshments. ❖ - *Vanshika Paul*

NORTHERN REGION

KARNATAKA REGION

The Bishop inaugurates 'YCS/YSM & Spandana Trust - Minority Scholarship Help Desk'

Mangaluru July 3: The Bishop of Mangalore, Most Rev Dr Aloysius Paul D'Souza inaugurated the Minority Scholarship Help Desk here today which is newly started by YCS/YSM Mangalore Diocese in collaboration with Spandana Trust (R) at Infant Mary Convent campus, Jeppu, Mangalore. At 10.00 am the Bishop led a short prayer service after which lighting of the lamp and inauguration was done through opening the Scholarship website of the Govt. Fr Rupesh Madtha, the Director, YCS/YSM Mangalore welcomed the dignitaries and the gathering. The Bishop in his address appreciated the initiative and gave a call to all to be ready to help our youngsters for a better society. Rev Fr Nelson Almeida, parish priest of Jeppu, Mr Riyaz, the CEO of Tallent Research Foundation Mangalore, Sr Evangeli, Sr Tulia, Sr Helen and Sr Dorothy from Spandana Trust of the Sisters of Charity Mangalore Province, Mr Hermon Roche Cascia, Mr Loy Roche Urwa, the YCS Coodinators Mr Mervin Vas and Mr Mervin Pais, YCS Diocesan animator Mr Prajwal Sequeira Derebail were present. Mr Victor Vas Kulshekar, the Manager of Spandana Trust compered the program and also thanked. The Help Desk remains grateful to Mr Alphonse Crasta, CompuNet Systems, kodialbail, Mangalore(9480949506).



The Help Desk serves the purpose of free uploading of scholarship applications preferably the Catholic students of PUC level and above. The volunteers will help the Students from 9.30 am to 4.30pm on all seven days of the week till August 31st, 2017 at the venue – Infant Mary Convent campus Jeppu, Mangaluru.

Students will get the following documents: Adhar Card/ Voter ID, Fee Receipt from the College, Bank Pass Book Copy of the student, Income/ Cast Certificate, previous Marks Card, 2 photographs.

For further details please contact: 8884584208 (Sr Dorothy SCC), 9448485000(Mr Loy Roche), 9322155322 (Mr Patrick Roche), 9902337342 (Mr Hermon Roche), 0824 2418510 (Office). ❖



YCS/YSM Mangalore Diocese Activities in the month of June

1. YCS new Animators' Training held in Bajjody on June 4th 2017.
2. YSM new animators training on 10 June 2017. 12 attended.
3. 12 New YSM units are added from this year.
So the total number of YSM units increased from 18 to 30.
4. New YCS Unit at Bola Parish inaugurated on 18 July 2017.
5. New YCS Unit at Thodambila Parish 13-06-2017.
6. YCS training at Bendoor Parish June 18, 2017.
7. YSM training Bendoor st Agnes on 17th June 2017.
8. YSM Annual General Body Meeting & Election on 24th June.
9. YSM Resource material in Kannada 'DARIDEIPA' is released on 24 June 2017. Thanks to Richard Alvares and Francis D'Cunha.
10. New YCS Unit at Panja Parish. At present total YCS units in the diocese are 104.
11. June 25th Beginners camp at Modankap, Bantwal deanery.
12. Mr Prajwal Sequeira has been nominated New Animator for YCS/YSM Diocese of Mangalore.
13. 'Yuvatare' Annual magazine 2016-17
14. DEXCO Live in program and annual evaluation on 24th June 2017.
15. YSM Vidyajothi College Vamanjoor unit inaugurated on 21 -6-2017. ❖

- Fr Rupesh madtha, Director

NORTH EAST REGION

YCS, FERRANDO HIGHER SEC SCHOOL, Umroii North East

The meeting began by explaining to the participants about what is YCS? They all shared their problems in a cell meeting. Sr. Bernadeth asked them to share whatever they have learned during the session.

Topics spoken: relationship of young people with parents in the world of technology

Action plan: Students committed themselves to spent time with their parents and family members at home. They have taken a decision to have meals together at home with parents, brothers and sisters. To have prayer services within the family. They ❖ decided to respect their parents and elders and neighbour. One hundred and ninety students participated



in this programme. During this programme new unit and cell leaders were chosen. ❖

- Jimmy Pdang
Former National Convener



TAMILNADU REGION

YCS/YSM INAUGURATION CHENGELPET DIOCESE, TAMILNADU REGION

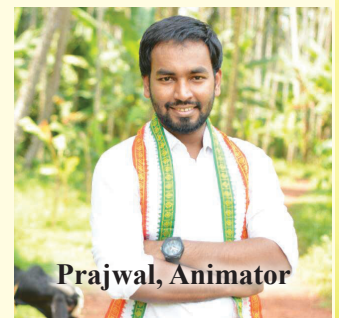
On 14th July, Friday, YCS YSM Chengelpet diocese, Tamilnadu organised an Inauguration programme for the academic year 2017-18. Around 30 schools with 200 students and 40 animators participated and benefited from it. The diocesan procurator and the pastoral centre director were the chief guests for the day. Certificates for

the student members of the last academic year were handed over to the respective animators. Mr. Leo Joseph, former National Coordinator was the resource person for the day. He introduced YCS/YSM to the students and the animators with the life examples of the past members and explained to them the importance of being in a cell. He emphasized the importance of conducting cell meetings and made them aware through various questions and personal sharing.

It was a successful one. Thanks to Fr. Chinnappan, DYD of Chengelpet for his meticulous planning for the betterment for these young minds. ❖

Ms Samatha Saldanha, Kulshekar – President of YSM Mangaluru 2017-18

Young Students' Movement (YSM), Mangaluru, Annual General Body Meeting was held on 24th June 2017 and Ms Samantha Saldanha Kulshekar has been elected the President for the year 2017-18. ❖



Prajwal, Animator

KARNATAKA REGION

Mangaluru: Queenie Mariya D'Costa elected President of YCS Mangalore Diocese

Mangaluru, Jul 2: Queenie Mariya D'Costa of Siddakatte has been elected the President of Young Catholic Students (YCS), Mangalore Diocese.

The election was held during the Annual General Body Meeting of the Diocesan YCS, which aims at 'Building a New Society by Self Change, with the Methodology of Awareness - Reflection - Action', on Sunday July 2nd at Shantikiran, Bajjodi here.

The day was inaugurated by Jesvita Quadras, the National President of YCS/YSM, followed by ice-breaking session conducted by the YCS Diocesan Executive Committee. Mr. Richard Alvares Kulshekar conducted a workshop on the role and responsibility of the office-bearers and leadership. After the Holy Mass the election for the new committee was held with the guidance of Mr Ronald D'Silva, the YCS Diocesan Election Commissioner for the Day. Merita Albuquerque, the outgoing Secretary presented the Annual Report. The YCS/YSM Diocesan Director Fr Rupesh Madtha addressed the students about the vision of YCS in the diocese.

The Concluding Ceremony was presided over by Most Rev Dr Aloysius Paul D'Souza, the Bishop of Mangalore. Viola D'souza, the outgoing *Yuvathare* Editor of YCS welcomed the gathering. This year we celebrate the 135th Birth Anniversary and 50th Death Anniversary of Cardinal Joseph Cardijn the Inspiration of the Movement. He was declared Servant of God on January 16th 2014, and his canonization progress



is in progress. At this background, the Bishop lighting the lamp before the portrait of Cardinal Cardijn, declared this year - 'Cardijn Year' for YCS Mangalore Diocese and the Diocesan Director prayed a prayer for the cause of canonization. Lavita Dsouza, the outgoing President and Merwin Pais, the outgoing *Yuvathare* Associate Editor shared their experiences of the last year. Fr Rupesh Madtha, led the oath-taking and handing-over ceremony. The newly-elected Office Bearers of YCS Mangalore Diocese 2017-18 are:

President: Queenie Mariya D'Costa, Siddakatte
Vice- President: Elton Glenwil Pinto, Bajal
Lady Vice- President: Violin D'costa, Belthangady
Secretary: Melneetha Correa, Derebail
Joint Secretary: Nevin D'cunha, Permude
Treasurer: Linda Clara Gonsalves, Ranipura
Yuvathare Editor: Joswin Lobo, Agrar
Yuvathare Sub- Editor 1: Flexon Lobo, Fermai
Yuvathare Sub - Editor 2: Nishal Lobo, Madanthyar

Regional Rep.1: Vidya Vinita Veigas, Arva
Regional Rep. 2: Royden Glen Colaco, Kelarai
Liturgy and Cultural Secretary: Vreethan Harold Pinto, Bajjodi
National President: Jesvita Princy Quadras, Angelore

The lucky coupon winners and Best Selling Units were honoured during the occasion. The Bishop felicitated the newly appointed Diocesan Animator, Mr. Prajwal Sequeira. Mr. Arun Siddakatte was thanked for his service as the Diocesan Animator for the past 6 years. The YCS/YSM Mangalore Annual magazine YUVATARE was also released.

The Bishop gave a call to the young students to instill values in themselves. The outgoing YCS Diocesan Executive Committee was felicitated with momentos and certificates. Arolin D'souza compeered the programme and Avil D'souza thanked the gathering. Diocesan DAC members Lanwin Lobo Urwa, Roshan Lobo Vamanjoor and Mervin J. Vas Ferar were present on this occasion. As many as 275 leaders from different Parish YCS Units participated. ❖

YCS Udupi Diocese Training & Central Council Elections 2017-18

YCS training program and election of new Central Council was held on 2nd July 2017 at Don Bosco Hall, Udupi. Prior to the elections of the YCS office bearers for the year, training programs were held to YCS office bearers as well as animators at the diocesan level. Resource person for the animators was Mr. Francis D’Cunha of Mulki and for YCS office bearers Mr. Norbert Misquith of Surathkal.



The Programme began with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Edwin D’Souza – Director YCS Udupi Diocese followed by the elections of the new office bearers for the year 2017-18 and then the training.

The office bearers of YCS:

President	Merwyn Rodrigues, Kemman
Vice-president Boy	Joyal Dsouza, Kandlur
Vice-president Girl	Simona Sony Dsouza, Sastan
Secretary	Dilan Dias, Byndoor
Joint-Secretary	Venzil Aakash Noronha, Belman
Treasurer	Aaron Wesley Dmello, Udupi
Auditor	Rithik Dsouza , Brahmavar
Reporter	Prinson Pritheesh Baretto, Basrur
RTS Boy	Shon A. Mendonca, Kuntalnagar
RTS Girl	Aasline V. Dsouza, Moodubelle
Animator - Gents	Mr. Azil Melwyn Castelino, Attur
Animator - Lady	Mrs. Lydia Aranha, Belman

Deanery Presidents

Kallianpur Deanery	Ashish Andrade, Sastan
Karkal Deanery	Jeswin Priyanka Dsouza , Attur
Shirva Deanery	Marvin Anson Quadros, Pangla
Udupi Deanery	Melita V. Dsouza, Moodubelle
Kundapur Deanery	Samuel Mario Lewis, Kundapur

During the Valedictory ceremony Rev Fr. Royal Nazareth, Superior – Holy Cross Fathers, Katpadi was the Chief Guest for the occasion. Fr. Edwin D’Souza YCS Director, Resource Person Mr. Norbert Misquith, Diocesan YCS Animator Mr. Joel Sequeira and officials of YCS were present.

Fr Edwin D’Souza administered oath to the new office bearers. Newly elected office bearers took the charge from the past office bearers during the occasion. Fr. Royal Nazareth, outgoing council members as well as newly elected council members were felicitated. Former president Mr. Leon Lewis welcomed the gathering while the newly elected president Mr. Merwyn Vijay Rodrigues delivered the vote of thanks. Former Joint Secretary Jessica Joyce Dsouza placed the report & Treasurer Venrold Lewis read out the annual account. The programme was compeered by Ms. Rencita D’Souza.

Around 195 Students & 41 Animators from 39 units participated in the programme. ❖



**Wishes to the new YSM unit
Milagres School, Gulbarga diocese, Karnataka Region**

An orientation on YSM was conducted by Fr. Cleavan Gomes, the Diocesan Chaplain on the history and methodology of YCS/YSM, and students were given topics to discuss based on the methodology, ‘SEE-JUDGE-ACT’.



YCS Village Exposure Camp 2016-17, Udupi Diocese

The village exposure camp by Young Catholic Students Movement, Udupi Diocese for four days had been organised at Kopla belonging to Palimar parish from 18th to 21st April 2017. It started with a procession march from St. Pius X Church, Palimar to the house where the camp was held. The inaugural ceremony was presided by, Most Rev. Dr Gerald Isaac Lobo, Bishop of Udupi. The Camp was inaugurated by Sri Vinay Kumar Sorake, MLA Kaup by breaking the coconut. Fr Charles Noronha, Parish Priest of Palimar welcomed the gathering. Johan Lewis, Ex YCS Council Member shared his past experience in YCS. Fr Edwin D'souza, DYD of Udupi Diocese briefed about the camp. Fr Paul Rego Director YCS Shirva Deanery, Fr Kiran Nazareth Director ICYM Shirva Deanery, Hezel Martis President YCS/YSM Karnataka Region, Mr Jithendra Furtado President Palimar Panchayath & others were present.

Students were shuffled into 6 groups which consisted



of students from different parishes. Each group had specific task to perform and common competitions were also held. Various activities were conducted based on the methodology of the movement - See (Awareness), Judge (Analysis) and Act (Action & Evaluation). The group activities helped the students to mingle with each other, make new friends, learn to live in a community, adjustment, etc. All of them spent the four days without using mobile phones which made them participate in full spirit.

The main purpose of this exposure was to understand the life of villagers and the way they viewed life. Participants visited the villagers and interviewed them which enabled them to understand the motto in a better way. For the students it was a special experience. The youngsters experienced the struggle of common man and the life style of village. For many of them it was first experience to work. They learned to cook, cleaned the surroundings, worked in fields etc.

Every day began with Holy Mass and then the work. A session on Career guidance was conducted by Fr Reginald Pinto, Director SAMPADA Udupi. Vicar General Msgr Baptist Menezes taught the Divine Mercy chaplet to the participants. Collage Presentation was conducted by Fr Chethan Machado, Director YCS YSM India. Mr Norbert Misquith conducted the Taize prayer which was most liked by the youngsters. Various games & action songs were conducted by Fr Kiran Nazareth Director ICYM Shirva Deanery.

Around 80 students 15 animators from various parishes actively participated in the camp. ❖

YSM Mangaluru Annual General Body Meeting Election and Leadership Training 2017-18

Election, Training and Annual General Body Meeting 2017-18 of Young Students' Movement Mangaluru was held in collaboration with CODP (Cannara Organization for Development and Peace) Mangaluru at CODP Hall, Padua On 24-06-2017. Breakfast was served at 9.00 am and at 09.30 a.m inauguration of the program was held. Fr.Oswald Monteiro, Director C.O.D.P, Mr. Everest Crasta Headmaster Cascia High School, And YCS Animator, Mr.Lanwin Lobo, Urwa were the chief guest With Sr.Jessy Preema of Sacred Heart's School, Kulshekar and Fr.Rupesh Madtha, The Director YCS/YSM Mangalore Diocese.Mr Suhag Alva the incumbent President of YSM Mangaluru also shared the stage.

After the inauguration ceremony, Mr.Lanwin Lobo Spoke to the students about the leadership And Mr. Everest Crasta spoke to the Animators, on how to



conduct YSM meetings . Fr.Rupesh addressed the students as well as Animators. Later the election procedure was held and also a resource material book by name "DARIDEEPA" was released. The program ended at 01.30 p.m with lunch. Ms. Samantha Saldanha was Elected as the New President of YSM with other 8 office bearers for the year 2017-18. ❖

YSM Udupi Diocese Central Council Election & Training 2017-18

Udupi : Young Students Movement (YSM) of Udupi Diocese Training and Central Council Election was held on 24 June, 2017 at Don Bosco Hall, Udupi. The programme was scheduled from 9am to 2pm. The programme was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Reginald Pinto, Director-Sampada-Social Development Centre, Udupi Diocese, by lighting the lamp followed by an interreligious prayer.

The training session for office bearers was conducted by Mr. Norbert Misquith. It was initiated by ice breakers and thereafter followed by the orientation about YSM to the students. The topic of the session was "Students Education in Modern Era". Meanwhile animators undergone a training which was given by YSM director Fr. Edwin D'Souza



Resource Person Mr. Norbert Misquith conducted the elections.

The office bearers of YSM, Diocesan Council:

President	Renvil Furtado, Don Bosco School, Shirva
VP Boy	Tejas Kumar, St. Lawrence Eng Med High School, Moodubelle
VP Girl	Anagha Bhat, Milagres Eng Med School, Kallianpur
Secretary	Gagan, St. Francis Xavier Eng Med School, Udyavar
Joint-Secretary	Jenitha Andrade, St. Joseph's High School, Belman
Treasurer	Triveni Angadi, Christ School, Manipal
Reporter	Loyd Castelino, St. Lawrence High School, Attur

Mr. John Castelino, St. Lawrence High School, Moodubelle and Mrs. Reshma Martis, Don Bosco School, Shirva were appointed as the diocesan animators of the movement.

It was followed by the Oath taking and the valedictory



ceremony. The dignitaries present were – Chief Guest – Fr. Herold Pereira, Director-SCC Udupi Diocese, Fr. Edwin D’Souza Director YSM, Resource Person Mr. Norbert Misquith & diocesan animators. Animator Mrs. Reshma Martis welcomed the gathering while the vice-president Treasha D’Souza read out the annual report. The newly elected president Mr. Renvil Furtado

delivered the vote of thanks. During the occasion outgoing council members as well as newly elected council members were felicitated.

About 22 School YSM units took part in this event, gathering about 182 students and animators from Udupi Diocese. ❖

YSM orientation at Sugyan, Gulbarga

The YSM animators and the office bearers training programme was held at Sugyana pastoral center on 30 June and 1st July 2015 at Gulbarga. 10 animators and 47 students participated in the programme, 12 school students were present.

St Joseph’s School conducted the interreligious prayer service, Most Rev Dr Robert Miranda was the Chief Guest who inaugurated the programme by lighting the lamp, and he spoke to the children regarding the See Judge and

Act. For the inaugural function, Fr Stany Lobo, Vicar General of Gulbarga diocese, Sr. Oliva, DLYA, student representative, Ms Preksha, the programme coordinator and Mr Victor were present on the stage. Fr Clevan conducted the group activity in which the students and animators were divided into 5 groups. Using charts, sketch pens and news paper cutouts they creatively brought out how the present society is.



The resource persons for the programme were- Fr Victor Vas, Manager, sacred heart school, Mr Vons Robin vegas, former Ysm president, Mr Kamal Francis and Mr Ebin, volunteers from national office of YSM, Chennai. Fr Victor vas highlighted what YSM means, Mr Vyon spoke on the cell based meetings, and Mr Kamal and Mr ebin conducted the the cell meetings they began with the example of Mahatma Gandhi, his encounter in South Africa, based on it he asked the students how did Gandhi use SEE, JUDGE and ACT. Then he asked them go into groups and they gave certain questions and there they had a discussions. At the end through the election of new Diocesan executive team was elected.

After the election the director congratulated the elected members and asked them to strengthen the YSM in their respective schools. The announcement:

- The cell meetings should be conducted in the schools at least once in a month.
- The YSM members should be divided into groups in all the school
- The list of the member according to the groupwise send it to the Yuvachethana office along with the registration fees Rs.10.
- The school email Id should be sent to the office.
- The material for cell meeting will be sent through mail
- The program photos along with the report should be sent to the office or to my whatsapp no. which will be published in diocesan website and facebook.

- Fr. Clevan , DYD YCSYSM Gulbarga Diocese

**Orientation of YCS YSM to Sunday school leaders
YCS YSM Aizwal Diocese**

YCS/YSM Aizwal Diocese conducted an orientation programme to the Sunday School teachers and animators on 16th July 2017. This programme was conducted for the teachers and leaders of St. Andrew's Parish, Zonuam. May God bless our mission. Thanks to my team & exycsers - Deborah, Caroline, Justine and Christopher for their contribution in this programme.

**DEXCO Live-in Programme in Aizwal**

YCS/YSM Aizwal diocese live-in programme was held on 15 July 2017 at Dr. Caroll Sangnghina's farm house at Neihbawih organised by Outgoing team of DEXCOs. The meeting started with a cell gathering and evaluated about 2nd National convention with some meaningful action songs and games. Outgoing DEXCO team shared their experience and motivated the new. Programme ended with a solidarity dinner

- Rebecca Khiangte, Coordinator

KARNATAKA REGION**Annual general Body Meeting - Shimoga**

July 26, 2017: In the Annual General Body meeting held on 22-23 July 2017 at Chaithanya, Shimoga the office bearers of the parish units of the diocese of Shimoga comprising of three districts viz Chitradurga, Davangere and Shimoga elected its new Diocesan Executive Council for the current academic year 2017-2018.

The former DEXCO under the leadership of Stephen Lobo had meticulously worked out the modules and details for this very important meeting. The Diocesan Bishop who is also the Chairman of the Yuvamitra Youth Commission of Shimoga had presided over the Oath taking ceremony.

Prior to the elections there was training program for all the parish unit leaders. Rev. Fr. Anil D'Sa the Regional Youth Secretary of Karnataka, Fr. Franklin D'Souza the former National CBCI Youth Secretary, Mr. Ronald Louis - YSM Animator of Chickmagalore, Jesvita Quadras - the National YCS/YSM President, Roshan Lobo - the former NEXCO were the resource persons.

There was also animators' training program. There were 22 animators present for the training program. Fr. Richard Pais, the SMSSS director was present for the inaugural function and oath taking ceremony. The new office bearers are:

1. President - Johnson - Cathedral Church, Shimoga
2. Vice President - Sonia Nazareth - Sagar
3. Secretary - Regina Jennifer - Bhadravathi NT
4. Joint Secretary - Priya D'Souza - Kable
5. Treasurer - Vicky Crasta - Thirthahalli
6. PRO - Ian Manish - Bhadravathi OT
7. Liturgy - Nihal - Bhadravathi PT
8. YSM Rep - Madhushree - Loyola School, Shimoga
9. YSM Rep - Adhiti - Mary Immaculate School, Shimoga
10. Girl Rep - Sinchana P - Cathedral Church, Shimoga
11. Boy Rep - Clacious Rodrigues - Jog Falls



Report: Ian Manish

REGIONAL ACTION PLAN

Based on the II National Convention

1. How do you put this National Convention experience into practice in your region?

- Organizing Regional level and diocesan level Conventions to publicize the movement.
- Conducting input sessions based on the National theme and thrusts.
- Making use of the former members of the movement as resource persons, animators and as advisory members to guide the DEXCOS and REXCOS
- Sharing Convention experience with one's family, friends, neighbors and school mates.
- By reviving and strengthening the movement to other dioceses and start new units.

2. As an YCS YSMer how would you help to build a new society?

- By understanding and internalizing the aims and objectives of the movement.
- Applying the methodology of the movement in every aspect of our life.
- Making myself a socially responsible person and to change myself.
- Becoming a role model in my family and school and to change many
- Speaking and sharing life inspiring issues than speaking about cinema and cricket
- Proper use of the social networking sites like Face book, twitter etc to create awareness to the public on various social problems.

3. As an Ex YCS YSM er how would you live and contribute to the movement way of life?

- Living with the YCS YSM spirit with the review of life: SEE, JUDGE and ACT
- Living an exemplary life in whatever or whichever place we are in
- Taking up responsibilities as an animator to mould the young members in the movement way.
- If possible, sacrificing one year for the National movement to serve as a National Fulltime volunteer.
- Forming a city cell and continue the legacy as a YCS YSM member
- Serving as a resource person and guiding the students with our past experience
- Remembering the movement in every aspect of our life.

- Compiled by Kamal Francis

testimony

My hearty wishes to my dear Ycs/ysmers. It indeed gives me immense joy to share my testimony with you all.

My YCS journey started when I was in class 7. My school is a part of Ycs. One day during our catechism class in school. One teacher asked us to form a cell of 7 people as we were only 14 in total. He asked us to discuss upon social issues or our own personal problem and find a solution to solve it. Shocking I was elected as the president of that cell with the maximum votes. I didn't know more about Ycs ,the thing I know was that we had to discuss upon social issues or any problem and need to act upon it. In one of the cell meeting, when Christmas was near. We were discussing on slum people,so I thought if this movement is to act then let's make it work in our cell. So I told other members of the cell to contribute or donate something so that we can give it to poor. That feeling was truly amazing.

When I was in class 9 I stood for the dexco treasurer and by the grace of god with the maximum votes I was elected as the treasurer. I felt quite responsible and satisfied that yes I can do something.

Here comes the changing point of my life. The 17th national council which was held at YMCA greater noida. I never knew about it I was called for this council. This was something very new to me. Surprising I was presented as the nexco from northern region. Truly I was in shock for quite sometime. I could not introduce myself properly. I was not aware of the duties Nexcos have. I felt quite lonely as I didn't know anyone there even people from my own diocese. I never tried to talk to people, I was a girl who was very shy,a girl who loves to be lonely,a girl who never interacted, a girl never interested in involving with people. My life was within the four walls of house and within my friends group, I didn't even know how to introduce myself, I had stage fear. I used to shiver in front of audience. Whenever I used to get something to speak on stage I used to ignore it or say no.

After coming to Ycs I have learnt how to interact, how to introduce myself, how to be responsible, to to make friends ,how to take up the duties, now I myself go forward and speak to people. I don't fear that much in facing audience. Now I am no more lonely I have friends almost from every state of our country. Now people say that I have inspired them. It really is an amazing feeling when someone is actually inspired by you and wanted to be like you.

My heartfelt love and gratitude to YCS /YSM for bringing a drastic change in me .

Thank you YCS/YSM, Let YCS/YSM light shine!!!

- Vanshika Paul
NEXCO- Northern Region.



II National Convention Student Experience

YCS/YSM India 2nd National Convention The 2nd National convention was held in Kolkata venue: Don Bosco school Park Circus. The team of this National Convention was “ Called to believe, to begin, to become.” Was according to me a grand success. Over 500 delegates came to Kolkata, West Bengal from different regions of India. National convention

for us the people of West Bengal started from 15th may as we needed to organise all the things for convention as we were the host region. We the delegates of West Bengal had a great time in organising this National convention in Kolkata. We used to go in the morning and then come back from the venue at 5 pm at evening.



The National convention official started on 21st May with the regions started coming in the venue. The Dexco team of FC West Bengal had made several committees with the help of the Nexco team and helped in the smooth running of the convention. 22nd May the inauguration ceremony of the National convention was done by the chief guest Rev. Thomas D'Souza, Archbishop of Calcutta. We all paid homage to our country and to Ycs/Ysm by singing the National Anthem and the Ycs/Ysm India.

Then National convention continued till 26th May. We the delegates of West Bengal had a great time making new friends, helping in the organisation of this National Convention, and the most importantly knowing our own limitations and Capabilities. We learnt how to overcome problems and stand up with what we were expected off. This National convention was an awesome experience for us. As we not only gained knowledge from the sessions given by various famous people like Rev. Fr. J. Felix Raj, (vice-chancellor of St. Xavier's university), Mrs. Monideepa Banerjee etc. But also learnt about the cultures of various states as each day of the convention was a cultural Program by each Region of India.

So I would like to thank The National Chaplain of Ycs/Ysm India Rev. Fr. Chetan And the whole Nexco team for organising such a great National Convention for us. I would also like to thank Fr. Debraj our regional Chaplain of West Bengal, sister Gauri, Grace mam the delegates of West Bengal and all the other delegates and the Deco team of West Bengal and last but not the least God almighty without whose presence and blessings nothing would be possible.

*- Prince Akash Mondal
Vice-president, DEXCO (West Bengal)*



Hello everyone, I am Ravi Xess national representative of M.P. region. So, it was my first convention as a YCS'er. Many students had come from different states or region. I interacted with people in convention and talked to them. In convention I saw many students were very active. By this convention I got many opportunities that I never had earlier. I also had a good time with my nexco's members and get to know more about them. From this convention I got changed myself. I learnt a lot of things in this convention. So at last I just wanna say that it was a great experience for me.

Thank You, Let YCS/YSM shine

II National Convention Student Experience

*- Ravi Xess,
NEXCO (MP)*

“...next Convention of YCS/YSM will unite a lot more great spirits”

II National Convention Student Experience

Representing the M.P. region. I would love to share my experience with you all. It was the II National Convention at Don BoSco School, Park Circus, Kolkata, from 21st to 26th May. I felt overwhelmed and anxious as I hit the YES button to register for my first ever YCS/YSM National Convention. The theme was: Called to Believe, Begin and

Become.

Being about 19 people from our region feeling almost alien in the unknown crowd. But we had our decisions frigid which was, knowing new people, making new family, learning new things and I guess it turned well.

As the program started and we had our session. They were all good. All almost, life changing to me. I also participated in one of these sessions as a speaker and had a talk on the topic. The session of Mr. Paul Jacob was very heart touching, it just pushed my buttons in other words enlightened me to see things differently. To care about my family and I admit, this was the only session I had tears in my eyes.

And I've got much more but there are no words to describe how it felt. We all enjoyed the walk to the tomb of mother Teresa.

Its good to see how people unite for one cause, it doesn't matters from where they are, all that matters is that they are there standing united as one for a good cause.

I can say that the next Convention of YCS/YSM will unite a lot more great spirits and will be more fruitful because we the youth are filled with energy bombs which are ready to explode but for a good reason, for a good cause, for a good purpose.

- Gloria Gangale, Indore Diocese.



“...blessed with a wonderful family - NEXCO”

My name is Sanjit Kullu, I am from Odisha Region, this was the first National Convention where I participated. It was a great experience for me to participate in the 2nd National Convention which was held in Kolkata, it was not only about being present during sessions, but we had a lot of work to do in order to make this 2nd National Convention a successful one. I was unable to attend NEXCO meetings earlier due to some problems and because

of this I didn't know about the plans about the Convention. I didnt know what to do and how to do, but we had to organise the convention. There were other companions of mine from other parts of the country. All of us worked together to fulfill our responsibilities and worked as a team. Never before I got such an opportunity to work at the national level program so for me it was quite a big responsibility just because of Jesus and the support which I got from my NEXCO family members I was able to do. This National Convention not only taught me to work together as a team but the most precious thing I got is “family”. As we know the love of a family is life's greatest blessing and so I am blessed with a wonderful “family” and their presence helps me to overcome my fear.

- Sanjit Kullu, Odisha

II National Convention Student Experience

“..They treated us like we were their younger sisters/brothers”

experience

II National Convention

Student Experience

Hello everyone I am Nancy Kujur from Northern Region. It was my first experience attending a National level programme. 2nd National Convention organized by YCS/YSM India. We were introduced to a lot of new things. Animators, LOC were good. They treated us like we were their younger sisters/brothers. Many delegates

had come so we were able to make new friends. Sessions were informative and useful. New action songs were introduced which had a lots of fun and excitement. We were also introduced to taize prayer, after attending taize prayer we found peace in ourself. The most important part of the convention was that we were able to learn a lot of new things. We thank Fr. CHETAN and all those who had come to give us sessions and panel sessions. Enjoyment was part of the convention. Action songs , group discussions, dances, group activities, food and last but not the least Dj night was very enjoyable . 2nd National convention of YCS /YSM India 2017 was a great success we had enjoyed each and everyday.



LET YCS/YSM LIGHT SHINE

- Nancy Kujur, Northern Region

“...blessed with a wonderful family - NEXCO”



‘The 2nd National Convention’ - the name itself brought me a different feeling. First of all, being a part of such a great movement and then participating in an event like this was and is a blessing to me. I was happy that I will be a part of this convention but I feared that living in the host region and being just a small part, would it be enough? My this fear made me to do all that I could for the convention to make it as good as it was. I didn’t give my best but atleast I tried to and that is what YCS has taught me. I still remember all those numerous preparatory meets, those serious discussions etc. They were damn boring but actually they helped in making this convention a big success.

II National Convention

Student Experience

This convention gave me many things. I got a new family, met lovely people, learnt good values of being together, team work, got a great experience and most importantly made unforgettable memories.

Thank you YCS for everything. I could not have become what I am right now if this movement would not have guided all through. I am proud to be a YCSer and will always be.

Let YCS light shine !

Akanchha Kachhap, West Bengal

“जब तक हम अपने आप को नहीं बदलेंगे तब तक हम कैसे दूसरों को बदलेंगे?”

experience

II National Convention

Student Experience

सब को जय येसु

मैं प्रियांजना भलराय, आप सभी के साथ अपना यह खूबसूरत अनुभव बाँटना चाहती हूँ। मैं YCS/YSM में दो साल से कार्य कर रही हूँ। जैसे की आप सभी जानते ही है की कुछ ही समय पहले हम सभी कोलकाता में 'नैशनल कनवेंशन' में गये थे।

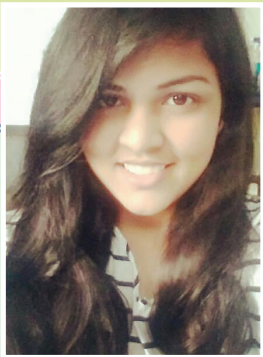
यह मेरा सौभाग्य है की मुझे दूसरा नैशनल कनवेंशन में जाने का सुनहरा मौका मिला। मुझे कोलकाता में बहुत अच्छा लगा, कई नए दोस्त बनाए और इस कनवेंशन में एक परिवार के रूप में शामिल हुए तथा मुझे कोलकाता बहुत अच्छा लगा सभी से बातें करके, सभी से मिलके यह समझ आया की YCS/YSM एक टीम ही नहीं बल्कि टीम के साथ साथ एक प्यारा सा परिवार भी है, हमें सब के साथ इस परिवार को आगे बढ़ाना है।

YCS/YSM हम सभी स्टूडेंट्स के लिए अती आवश्यक है। मेरे प्यारे दोस्तों, जब तक हम अपने आप को नहीं बदलेंगे तब तक हम कैसे दूसरों को बदलेंगे, साथ ही साथ हमें अपने कार्यों से दूसरों को प्रेरना भी देनी चाहिए।

इस कनवेंशन से मैंने बहुत कुछ सीखा और इस के लिए मैं फादर ऐलेकजेन्डर, फादर चेतन और सभी लीडर्स को सह हृदय से आभारी होके धन्यवाद देती हूँ की वे यूँ ही आगे बढ़ते जाएँ और YCS/YSM को आगे बढ़ाएँ।

आप सभी को धन्यवाद और एक बार फिर जय येसु।

— प्रियांजना भलराय



“We interacted and communicated with students and animators”

“Called to believe; begin; become”.

The 2nd national convention was held at Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkata. Whenever any such camp or convention is held, the main purpose is always to help students to understand what YCS/YSM is, how it can

help us and how we can spread it on.

To me the convention has really been helpful, it has helped me to understand YCS/YSM and so I can also help others and tell them what I have learnt. The topics that YCS/YSM takes sessions over are the most appropriate topics for students like us. The convention has not only been informative but also interactive. For students like me who had attended a convention for the first time, it was really exciting.

We interacted and communicated with students and animators of different regions and we got to know about their culture and tradition and even tried to learn a few things about their traditions, culture and language. The students from all regions were very friendly and helpful. We used to start our day with the Holy Eucharistic celebration and end with our cultural programs. Cultural programs have a chance to see and understand the other regions by their performances.

Overall the convention has been a great success and has helped many of us in many ways, it has brought me closer to YSM/YSM and has helped me to understand it better and so now I can be a help to my friends and the other students, to help them to give them better knowledge about YCS/YSM.

- Sanjit Kullu, Odisha

II National Convention

Student Experience

“I saw delegates sharing their culture and tradition with others”

experience

II National Convention

Student Experience

My warm greetings to all my dear fellow YCS/YSMers. Hope you all are doing well. I am here to share my experience of our 2nd National Convention at Don Bosco, Park Circus, Kolkata. With a beautiful theme “called to believe, begin and become”. Everything has a purpose in the same way our convention also had

a purpose. A purpose of bringing students of different regions together. So that they can share and know about other region’s culture and tradition. According to me, I think that the purpose was fulfilled. I saw delegates sharing their culture and tradition with others, trying to know each other, making friends. I saw delegates who were quiet on first two days were interacting and mingling with regions on other days. They were adjusting themselves. It was really nice to see the involvement. Delegates were interacting, asking questions, giving answers made sessions more interactive and lively. They were finding interest in sessions.



A big thanks to my family (NEXCOS). You all are really supportive, caring , loving. Thank you for being there with me always. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be the MC for cultural programme. It was indeed a great opportunity. I made mistakes but you people encouraged and supported me. Love you all. How can I forget the Daddy of the family, Fr. Chetan our National Chaplain. Thank you father for making this convention happen. Thank you father your guidance, your support, your encouragement your love and care. Special thanks to the Archdiocese of Calcutta, Fr. Devraj, Sr. Gauri, DEXCO and LOCs and everyone else involved in the making of this convention.

Last but not the least a big thanks to all the delegates for taking part in the 2nd National Convention actively and making it a success.

Let YCS/YSM light shine!!!

- Vanshika Paul, NEXCO - Northern Region.



Especially for me, the II – YCS/YSM National Convention was a big and fun event. They delivered us a good speech to carry on in life from different persons with different topics. In spite of that, we have the opportunity to make friends, and I’ve got a lot of new friends from all over different parts of India. One of the main values I have learnt is “Discipline”. Everyone must wake up early and wash himself and attend the Eucharist Mass which we usually start at 06:45 A.M.; waking up was one

of the hardest thing to do there, so we must get our self disciplined first and continued our tasks. From all the speech and inspiration, I have gained more courage and confidence. And thank you once again to YCS/YSM India for organizing such wonderful program for the growth of our own-self.

-Anthony C. Vanlalpeka, President, Aizawl Diocese

II National Convention Student Experience

experience

II National Convention

Student Experience

Dear YCS/YSM'ers, it is such a privilege to be a part of this YCS/YSM family. 7 years I have been through this movement. All the experience and lessons I have learnt from this movement is amazing. I have learnt many things that improve my personal skills. Lord has guided this movement and showers many blessings upon it. YCS/YSM is a movement where everyone is equal and have freedom to share our thoughts and words. Through this movement we build a place in every heart by binding each and every nation together as one. As we are all equal in God's eyes we all are equal in this movement as well. Our methodology- See Judge and Act should be a review to our life. In whatever we are doing it is a right thing to reflect ourselves by our methodology i.e to see first and then make a judgement and only after that action will follow. If we are aware of this we will never make mistake in our life and we will never make wrong decisions. Though we are not called to be leaders, every person is individually called by God in different ways, some are meant to be good leaders while some will be a good students who will motivate their leaders. Every person is individually important. We must try to be a blessing to everyone who are in need and let our light shine through the whole world by doing our best in the movement.

So let your light be a blessing to others and let it shine in everywhere you go.

Let YCS/YSM light shine
Long live YCS/YSM



Justine Tlau, NEXCO, Northeast Region



Through God's grace, I have spent a wonderful time and have learnt important lessons from YCS. As a student in YCS for about 5 years till today, I found many results in me, which lead me in a better way. For me YCS is a path given to me by God.

There are lots of experiences in my life and to my friends through YCS but I want to say that this movement gave me self confidence and also taught me how to face struggles in my life.

II National Convention

Student Experience

In the YCS/YSM National Convention held at Kolkata, I spent my precious time there exactly for one week. I learnt a lot of lessons there from all resource persons from selected beautiful topics. It taught me about YCS/YSM's aim, exactly what YCS is all about. Taught me how to respect other religions and also their followers. I learnt better ways to communicate with others. At last but not the least I learnt to know the value of life and friendship.

Through this movement, I have picked many precious lessons. LOVE YCS..THANKYOU YCS..LONG LIVE YCS

- Fidelialrindiki

Sweet Memories

of National Convention Kolkata-2017



Sweet Memories

National Convention of Kolkata-2017



Sweet Memories

of National Convention Kolkata-2017



National Council EMCEES-ANIMATION-FELICITATION



National Convention 2017 - RESOURCE-ANIMATION

