

# The Search

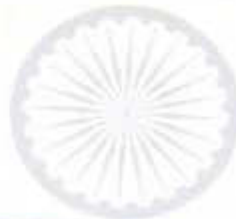
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YCS/YSM NATIONAL NEWS LETTER

## FREEDOM FROM CORRUMPO

In Arthashastra, Chanakya says, "Just as it is difficult not to taste honey or poison placed in the tongue, similarly, it is difficult for one handling the ruler's money to refrain from tasting it in small quantities. Just as it is not possible to know when the fish moving in the water drinks water, similarly it is difficult to find out when officers employed in execution of works misappropriate money." The above was said by Chanakya in 300 B.C. and one has to wonder how a 2300 year old 'tradition' of misappropriation of money or in a better term 'CORRUPTION' can survive amongst us humans for so long even when we are aware of all that is happening around us. Corruption may be defined as "The use of go India, one of the main reasons for corruption, which has long been debated for & against is, 'the lack of corporate governance standards.' This leads to emergence of 'corumpo' or corrupts in both the government and in the dominant (richer) section of the society. Presently, India figures as the seventh most corrupt country in the world according to "transparency international" a non-governmental German organization. Acceptance of gifts and rewards for work done in an official capacity or obtaining objects or advantages illegally or fraudulent use of public property, acquiring financial resources more than one's income, abuse of public office, avoiding one's duty or avoiding payment of taxes is a few kinds of corruption prevalent in our society today. The registered number of cases of corruption in India under the prevention of corruption act 1947, varied from 300 to 500 between 1981 and 1987 but after the enforcement of 1938 act, the number now varies somewhere between 1800 to 2000 annually.



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*Editorial...*

➤ In the modern era where the essence of democracy is inculcated along the lines of empowerment of citizens of a country, 'corruption' today has become a big issue which is being combated by the common man himself. By common man I mean a person who has emerged in the recent times. The whole country now is looking up to him to try and erase this evil from the society. In his struggle to get the 'JAN LOKPAL BILL' passed, he has won the entire support of the country. Anna Hazare is one of India's well-acclaimed social activists. A believer in the Gandhian philosophy of 'Ahimsa', he is well known and respected for upgrading the ecology and economy of the village of Ralegan Siddhi, which is located in the drought prone Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra. His agitations over the past 20 years have resulted in the removal of 6 corrupt cabinet ministers from Maharashtra and over 400 officials. As he has ignited hopes in young people across India of a corruption free nation, it becomes our duty to support this 'common man' and live a life where the shadows of this evil can only dream of reaching us. Let us be united in building a nation which we could proudly call 'FREE.'



- Frank Russel Felix, Editor

## *Chaplain's Corner*

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### **WHO KNOWS ABOUT IT AND WHO CARES TO KNOW ABOUT IT?**

**I AM ANNA...** Anna Hazare!!!! Today everyone wants to identify oneself with his name. It is because everyone has experienced some kind of corruption in the society and the bureaucracy or may be for fancy. A large number of people got down to the streets and supported the cause of Anna which is everyone's cause too. Yet there were a hundredfold more people inside the safe doors watching him in the TV perform this great feat at Ram Leela Maidan. Remember without getting down to the streets, no change can take place in the society and this is the lesson learnt by many. These kinds of feats and sacrifices do make a big difference in the mindset of the people and society which yields good fruit enjoyed by all but partaken by a few.



As a constitutional body of the nation our elected members should have heeded to this voice much earlier than they did. The elected lot thinks they are super human beings and cannot be touched so easily forgetting the fact that they could bite the dust in the next election if people reject them. Gone are the days where one person wins elections continuously for ages because the electoral lot is more learned today and knows to choose or to reject. It may take a few more years until all get educated to the corners of the nation and then the true reforms will have more effect and benefits to the lot to which it belongs to. Accordingly to reject the person in the election will have more meaning as Anna's electoral reforms say.

In doing so each one has to take part in one or the other civil society activities that come our way and it has to start from our homes, the school and at the level of basic education. That would be the right age to decide one's future course of action. As Vinobha Bhave ones said "Today the trend setters or change agents like Schools and Colleges have failed to do their duty in forming human beings pro society and educated, instead they have made them only literate". We are in a dire need of making people educated, human and more civil so that whole society enjoys the gifts given by the Almighty. People should be transformed in their hearts and there are many ways to do this.

We get a lot of alarming news everyday taking place under our nose. Young teenagers become slaves of sex and drugs, drinking and smoking, gambling and stealing, raping and killing. Young masses are lining up in juvenile homes. They die to the world before they realize their worth. Young kill themselves by hanging or consuming poison, just because they are not able to withstand the pressure. It is sad to note that the society, schools or heads of the communities and institutions have no time to peep into this problem rather escape from it.

The Religions, Studies, Holy places, Gurus, the Movements and the Examples of great people like Gandhi, Hazare, Irom Sharmila, etc will pave a path for us in this manner. As a student movement in YCS/YSM, we have a great opportunity and methodology (See, Judge and Act) which is a much simpler way to achieve this. This methodology will help us to introspect and transform ourselves in the form of Review of Life at a younger age itself. It is a beautiful and simple Way of Life which is so very practical for anybody to change oneself without putting any kind of pressure rather used as a leisure activity. To sit in a small group and share one's faith and day today experiences with the fellow being which makes one accept oneself in reality and change the society by changing oneself. **Unfortunately who has the will and time to do it?**

*The teachers are overloaded, the School heads are overburdened, the society/religious leaders are immersed with other activities, the so called Animators have vanished and the partakers (Students) are busy with vanities of the world.*

YCS/YSM is an International Movement, recognized by the CBCI way back in 1969. The people who recognized it as an official apostolic and social student/teenage movement of the church would not know anything about it now except a few who had been a part of it either at the diocesan level or at the student level. Even then they would have a mired image having forgotten the core of it as ROL. **Who knows about it and who cares to know about it?**

We call it a Catholic movement which should have been catholic in nature catering to all the humanity, but in most part of our country we have left it to die a natural death not knowing that our young generation will also die a untimely death with it in values and various facets of life.

Promoting anything that is good for human beings and nature needs a lot of dedication and hard work. Give some time for it and time will deliver the goods. If you have no time to sow what will you reap? Attending to the needs of the young minds and hearts (teenagers) has been our mission given by God but taking an escape from it will harden our future. The young age is short (a few years) and it will not last long. It has to be attended to at the right time. We have already lost a large number of souls and unless we move into this mission immediately and wholeheartedly we will lose many more. Whom will we blame for the debacle other than ourselves?

A day will come when our creator and master who gave us this mission to us will ask for the accounts and we will stand in front of him with empty hands. Posterity will blame us and our lips will be sealed knowing neither to accept our fault nor to justify ourselves.

As we had been a part of Anna Hazare's movement, may we also be a part of this (YCS/YSM) movement which will bring a new life to our young generation and paves a good life ahead towards a bright future. Just give some time to know about it and you will do it because you need to answer to your master one day.

**- Fr. Charles Menezes**

## **FDF Denmark - 2011 Lanslear**

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I am really happy and privileged to share with you my beautiful journey to Denmark. I am grateful to Fr. Charles Menezes and Fr. Alwyn D'Souza for selecting me over so many young people in the country for this camp. Two of us Melwyn Titus of Nagpur and I Suzan Munurose Topno of Kolkata represented YCS/YSM India, where as Mr. Farrell Vas from Mumbai, Mr. Peter Gomes from Kolkata, and Ms. Maya Abraham from Kottiyam (Kerala) represented ICYM, were the Indian contingent under FIMCAP at the camp. There were 23 nationalities represented by 500+ internationals in a camp of over 12,000 participants. It was the Denmark National Camp organized every four years by FDF.



The camp was scheduled from 7th to 15th July 2011. As per the schedule we arrived to the venue on the 7th at 16:00 hours. It was bright day light and the camp site was a scenic beauty. It was in the woods of Sletten an island of Denmark. Each international contingent had a parent contingent hosting that group specifically; we were hosted by the village of Storm. P by the Sunds. The area covered under the camp site comprises of 250 football fields. Our hosts Cecelia and Maria came to escort us from the reception down south-east of the camp site, we had a good length of 3kms to walk till we reached our camping village. However all our tiredness vanished the moment we were welcomed at the Sunds camp by the kids and their leaders. We were presented there as leaders from our National Movements and as leaders for the group and the kids were of an average age of 14 years. Everything came up to us with a surprise; however the leaders of our group helped us to get a good hand over things and get involved with the camp. There were a lot of activities going all over the place, the age group of the camp was diverse, from little kids to their grandparents, were everyone was involved in making the camp fun.

The theme of the camp was "Innovation" and every corner of the camp site made sure that the theme was well established, because every group in the camp was innovating things every day, from a huge dining tent to aero planes and



more. Each day was a surprise for us as it brought with it new things to learn and new people to meet. Being the National leader of the Indian contingent I was invited to attend the International reception, one of the days during the camp, a gathering of all the international movements, and country leaders. This made it a good opportunity for me to meet young leaders from all over the world, and to also give a vote of thanks to the FDF team for organizing something so great. It was a nice feeling out there as I was the youngest youth leader present there.

The campfire used to be the most awaited part of the day; we used to have our own village campfires as well as a bigger gathering of the whole camp at the main square. The inaugural campfire was memorable as the Queen of Denmark her majesty Margrethe Alexandrine \_órhildur Ingrid had come down to put down her word of encouragement for the young people. It was a really great sight to see moving happy and free amidst 12000 young people. One striking sentence she said in her speech was “I thank the young people of Denmark from my heart, as whatever Denmark is today is because of the youth of Denmark”.

It was a ravishing experience for us all as, it was nature un-plugged! We were away from electricity, from proper toilets, from all luxuries of life, completely bare with nature. There was nobody to show us the path or lead us, it was we who had to be on our toes, decide for our self and still work in a team. I really complement the participation of my fellow mates, who were a part of this camp, each of us were unique and still one as Indians and more like leaders. I wish each of them all the best in life, and thanks a lot for making this camp a wonderful experience for me.

- **Suzan Munurose Topno,**  
**Former YCS/YSM National Convener, WB**

### **Upcoming programmes**

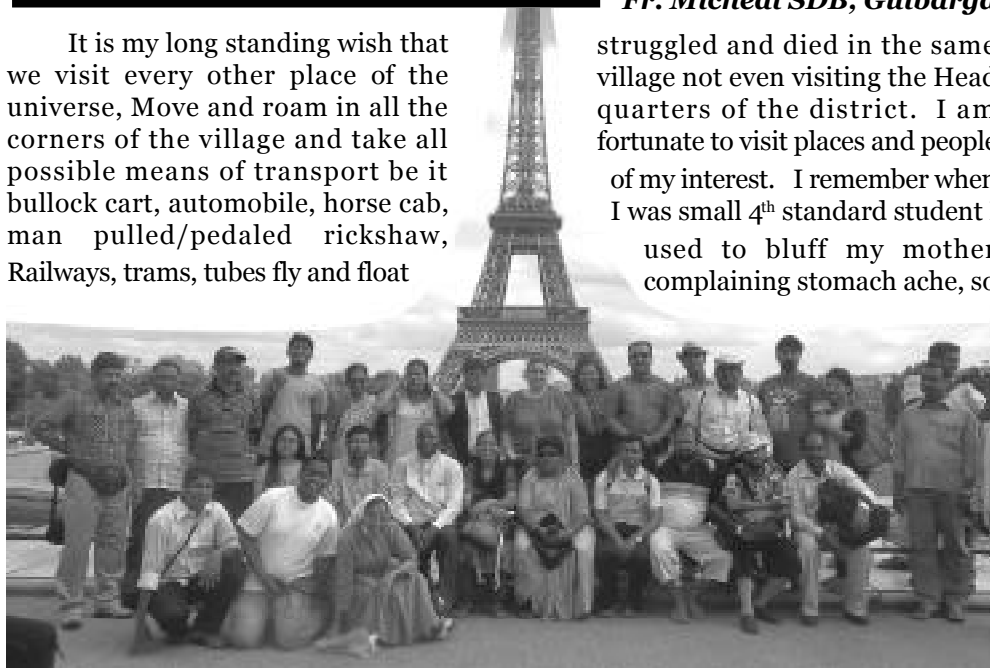
1. **CAFE**  
**Place:** Bangkok, Thailand  
**Date:** 7-14 Nov 2011  
**Participants:** 2 students, 1 animator and National Chaplain
2. Inter Regional Student Leadership Training Program for TN & AP, and Orissa & Bijhan.
3. Karnataka Regional Animators Get together on 30<sup>th</sup> October at Mangalore.
4. **NTA/EXCO** meeting on 17-18 Dec. 2011 at Seva Kendra, Kolkata

## WHEN REMOTE LOCAL ICYM OF GULBARGA GOT MIXED UP WITH WORLD YOUTH. HA. HA. HA....

**Fr. Micheal SDB, Gulbarga**

It is my long standing wish that we visit every other place of the universe, Move and roam in all the corners of the village and take all possible means of transport be it bullock cart, automobile, horse cab, man pulled/pedaled rickshaw, Railways, trams, tubes fly and float

struggled and died in the same village not even visiting the Head quarters of the district. I am fortunate to visit places and people of my interest. I remember when I was small 4<sup>th</sup> standard student I used to bluff my mother complaining stomach ache, so



in the air, Dive and drive in the sea. This is the reason my mother would call me, "he has fixed a wheel into his leg." How many beatings and punishments I have faced for my loitering. All this wild thoughts gushes forth in my mind as I recall my recent feat of visiting Rome in Italy, Barcelona and Madrid in Spain, Paris in France.

I always wondered at my grandpa who migrated from some other state with daunting and daring spirit and got established himself in an entirely different state. Where as I know people who were born in my village slogged and

that she may take me to nearby town to meet the doctor. That foolish doctor would not find out my mischief, I used to suspect the doctor's qualification who failed to catch the liar who dispensed medicine which was not needed at all. Later on I realized that they depended on the patient both for money and information regarding the sickness.

Fortunately, I was made Diocesan Youth Animator, as a youth animator I keep rolling the ball and try to bring movement into the life of youth, try to journey with them in their joyful and difficult times. We have journeyed

together for a local yuva melas, regional conventions and National Conferences. When it came to World Youth Day which required life time earning of our poor youth they back tracked and made me lonely in my journey to the World Youth Day. For my consolation at least one youth, Diocesan secretary was chosen to attend World youth day through the sponsorship of Jesuit India. Salesians had chosen one youth from their own parishes and we could not support any of the youth. Neither I was ready to sacrifice this life time chance to one of the youth of my diocese, though I had a mental struggle, I went ahead with the plans to attend world Youth meet in order to promote youth for the successive youth meets.

#### **TOURISTER V/S PILGRIM:**

From childhood days onwards I am accustomed to make pilgrimage to Dornahally in Karnataka, Vailankanni in Tamilnadu, St. Sebastian church at Arthingal, St. Thomas mount at Chennai, St. George at Edappally, Mother of Happy voyage at Bandel, Kolkota Mary Help of Christian shrine at Matunga, Mumbai etc. Though people drummed up this one to be a pilgrimage like that the tourister in me out shined the pilgrim. Only the visit to Lourdes and Avilla could bring back the pilgrim experience. Thanks to ICYM Delhi group which tried to inculcate the theme of the world pilgrimage “Planted and rooted in Christ firm in faith” Col 2:7. The importance of making this pilgrimage for the youth and youth workers of India, some what holy feeling was raising it’s head but in the half naked poorly clad youth of Europe provoked me to be more holy in order to be strong in chastity.

The fear of our youth imitating the westerners, in their meager dressing and posh habits of life was rejected when an elderly European lady expressed her happiness about the way Indian girls and boys who stayed in her house dressed made me happy.

**Days In the Diocese:** 40 youth from our group got an opportunity to stay in the Catholic houses of a remote Spanish village called Castell Sera in the Diocese of Urgell.



I was happy that they would come to know the depth of faith of age old well seasoned Christians of Europe where religion is ageing and you will find only gray haired people in the church. Spain at least the part of which we traveled was not that lush green and naturally bountiful but we saw scientific way of cultivation and apparent affluences could



be noticed. The food which we had for most of the days of our staying was stacked and canned food and drink like hot dog, hamburgers, coco drinks etc. One day, for a meal they prepared rice with vegetable and meat into it. We had a chance of mixing with German, Spanish, Polish and Slovakian youth who were very enthusiastic about religiosity. The presentation by Polish group was very religious and Slovakian group dealt with earth and spirituality. We were welcomed by the City Mayor and Arch Bishop of Urgell Diocese and our board and lodging were well taken care. Our visits to the convent church nearby to celebrate the feast of St. Clair and Assumption feast in a Marian Shrine was made memorable. We witnessed how a monastery was turned into a posh lodge, hotel and restaurant. Katalunya was boasting of checking the onslaught of Arabs and Muslim invasion of Europe. Every village we saw was centered on majestic and beautifully built churches. People were very friendly and affectionate. The villages and towns are finished products and apparently look as though they have been abandoned because one does not see any person on the streets. The movement of cars and people at eateries and stores you may conclude that the towns are inhabited by people. The towns and people barely could tolerate the huge group of youth and youth workers in their town. Noisy group disturbed their serene poignant dwellings. Youth played, swam in swimming pools and presented wonderful Jai ho to win the hosts heart thanks to Indian squad who had also prepared speeches in Spanish and addressed the crowd. The Independence Day celebration in front of our Sports complex, where we stayed was very touching. We sang with extra gusto our national Anthem and presented cultural variety of India.

**BARCELONA TREAT:** The participants from all over the world, who were staying in the states of Barcelona gathered for a youthful Eucharist at Barcelona beach stadium called "Forum". More than 20000 youth from all parts of the world were there to give



witness to their faith. Arch Bishop of Barcelona and 15 other bishops and 100's of priests participated in this Mass and prayed for the success of World Youth Day at Madrid. The youth groups went visiting famous shrines, churches, Basilicas and Museums of Barcelona and returned for an evening Concert at the same venue. Thousands of youth without any barrier of land, language and colour danced hand in hand to the famous tunes played by the world famous teams.

**Journey to Madrid:** Our buses left Bellager in the afternoon after the festal meal atop of the mountain and reached Madrid at 12.30 midnight we were placed in the state indoor stadium along with four other nationals from African continent. This was a hot and sultry place without air condition and proper ventilation. 400 + people had to use 6 toilets 3 for male and 3 for female. We were wonderstruck about the adjustability of the participants. Able and powerful ones flew away from the nest and found hotels, motels, convents for their stay. Poor and abandoned youth had to adjust the same fate of staying in this Go down like place. The groups next day moved to different places to enjoy the hospitality of Spanish people in parks and hotels. Priests went to check their accreditation to get passes to attend Papal Eucharist. Many abhorred the bread and butter, jam, ham and other stacked dishes provided by the Spanish hosts. I relished every western meal and put on 10 kg. I enjoyed the crowd and confusion of the foreign land. I was lucky to be invited by a group of sisters to stay in their convent's well furnished guest room for five full days. I could attend youth catechesis by Arch Bishop of Dublin. I enjoyed the talks and question answer session by the youth.

We had Welcome Mass on the first day by the Arch bishop of Madrid; we were surprised and shocked at the sight of jam packed streets of Madrid. Though participated in the Eucharist in a special lane reserved for the priests, we could not even approach the altar, we had to be satisfied at looking at the huge screen and concelebrated in the Mass. Only on the next day we could have a glimpse where the main stage and altar was located. One thing pained many of us was the language, only Spanish and not even a single word of English was spoken in a conference where youth from all over the world had gathered.

**Welcome accorded to Pope:** Every bus, train, tram, tube, junctions and roads were full of colorful youth attending talks, adorations, confessions, visiting hotels, malls, and stadiums and having their own fun in parks and public places. In the evening again the huge gathering was at the same venue of Cibeles square to welcome our beloved Papa. Viva IL Papa was heard from all the quarters. Youth were getting mesmerized by his presence. I could see plenty of flags of different nations, dioceses and lands.

Next day i.e. 19<sup>th</sup> we had way of the cross officiated by the pope, again youth cheered Popes presence and participated with devotion in the Way of the cross. The

beautiful Stations of the Cross were erected and youth carried the cross and prayed with the Pope.

If anyone has missed their way in that huge mass of people, one need not worry. The self explaining Metro map and bus guide will guide you through to the halting place. Spanish spoken volunteers will help you, as well.

**Final Day in Madrid:** on the penultimate day we had to gather in an air base for the night's vigil and adoration. Indian group was given D1. We walked 3-4 k.m. to reach the place with our picnic lunch pack. We found to our dismay all our friends were put out not a place to stand. In one venue we could see a huge crowd of young people, raising dust moving and standing in hot sun singing songs and slogans. We could see a sea of cheering group of young people all over. Indians were pushed to still further corners. Not knowing what to do we hid our admission cards and got into less crowded far away corners. As Pope arrived and the adoration began the heavy breeze and rain started. They were trying to shelter Pope and we continued praying and adoring the Lord. In that rain we finished meal and stayed there. Young people showed their courage and stood their ground. Many left the venue for the safe places and for a catch of sleep. Next day morning we entered the lounge allotted for the accredited priests to attend the Holy Eucharist concelebrated with the Pope.

#### ICYM – INDIA

We heard to our dismay that many enthusiastic participants were denied Visa and central team had a hard time surmounting this problem. But still more than 800 youth from 36 groups they managed bring in to participate in the great event. Our National Youth Director Rev. Fr. Alwyn managed to get Visa for number of people and fought a hard fight to get our National President and General Secretary. Once he arrived, new life and movement in the camp. He tried to clear all confusion and doubts and also fixed a rendezvous with the group next day after the Final Mass. Rev. Fr. Alwyn D'Souza and NEXCO group with Arch Bishop Leo Cornelio; Chairman of Youth

Veronica Gomes,  
Kolkata



Romy Brat Mathew, Kolkata



Apostolate CBCI was present, heard the grievances and tried to console the inconveniences in the trip.

That night we left and reached Navarre the boarders of Spain where Francis Xavier apostle of the East was born. We visited his castle, basilica, parish church etc. and left for Lourdes. Lourdes, a beautiful town on the banks of river Gave, where mother Mary was appeared to Bernadette Soubiru and proclaimed that she was immaculately conceived. The spring near the grotto which had healed many people, we could have a dip too, we had time to swim in the cold river, and participate in the holy mass in the Basilica which was built above the grotto of Lourdes, where mother gave her apparitions. We could collect holy water and pray and meditate at the feet of Our Lady of Immaculate conception. We felt the presence of St. Bernadette Soubiru in that place. Candle lit Rosary on that night at the shrine premises was very grand and touching experience. Many lost their way in that winding town and returned late, which delayed our trip to Paris our dream city.

**Priests in Paris:** We were warmly welcomed by the IYCS International Chaplain Rev. Fr. Paul Tiga and his parishioners. Ms. Kareen and Holy Parish Priest Henry, was very kind and generous in accommodating and guiding through the city. The presence of Arch Bishop Leo Cornelio was a blessing as he knew French. The problem of bathroom haunted us in no bath rooms you find bathing room the question remains to be answered how the Europeans take bath. I was too shy to ask this question but without shame took bath in the outside gardens with the hose pipes which was used to water the front garden. Girls could not be more creative than to carry one of the hose to a toilet and queued up in front of toilets to get rid of the dirt to become fresh. The Eiffel Tower to which we walked in order to save some Euros was worth the walk and many were not ready to pay the price to climb atop of it by paying 14 Euros. Some of us found strength to climb to the top even then you had to pay 5 Euros which was exorbitant for the poor Indians. We went on to the top where you can have a panoramic view of Paris. The holy parish priest also climbed along with us and explained to us the view. That evening parishioners prepared a grand dinner for us. Next day was free day for us to roam but the fear of spending Euros made us to get cornered even then we visited St. Michael's square and church, Notre dame church and walked on the sides of the canal where boats full of honey mooners were enjoying the beauty of Paris. We visited posh market place called Opra and peeped into the costly goods and bought nothing even then we enjoyed window shopping. The conclusion was Paris not for religious people, it is for young lovers whose pockets are full of Euros to spend to please their partners.

Finally at the Charles D'Gulle Airport we managed to squeeze through and thanked the national office for gifting us such a rich experience and landed in India for our daily routine in Youth ministry.

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## IYCS Global Formation Session and the 14th World Council 2011

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We, 120 delegates from 37 countries discussed the theme: *Crisis and Conflict in the World - Students Offering Hope*. The 10- day long study session was hosted by YCS/YSM India in New Delhi. It was also the opportunity to review the state of the movement through the World Council which is the highest decision-making body of the movement that meets once in four years. Below is an excerpt from the outcome of the discussions, debates and reflections.

### ***An Excerpt from the Program Statement...***

We, the representatives of the International Young Catholic Students Movement (IYCS) coming from every continent of the world in this International Year of Youth (IYY) declared by the United Nations, gathered in New Delhi (India) from June 15-27, 2011 for the 9<sup>th</sup> Global Formation Session and the 14th IYCS World Council under the theme: "Crisis and Conflict in the World, Student offering Hope". At this global gathering, we, students from all over the world have deliberated five priority themes, which we found so crucial that we pledge our commitment to work in these thematic areas, inspired by the Gospel and the Catholic Social Teachings. We observe cultural and spiritual crisis amongst young people world-wide, especially in the context of increasing globalization, which increases the interconnection between cultures. This crisis is present in the Church, highlighted by young people who are abandoning their Christian faith and showing disinterest in religion. There is lack of appreciation and

understanding about the Christian faith and many young people are disconnected from both faith and religion. They are not able to identify and experience the love of God in their lives, in the people around them or in the Church. We have identified the primary causes of this crisis to be extreme secularization, materialism, and the difficulties of today's church to respond to the growing needs of the youth in the age of inter-culturality. We have to bring to the world, a new culture of Christianity. Their faith and cultural education is inappropriate and unattractive. We believe that this faith crisis manifest a crisis in values, and is linked to other crises experienced by young people today. We want to respond to the call of the Pope for a New Evangelization, one that is relevant to the world today and that makes the presence of Jesus Christ visible in the lives of all people, especially the youth.

***Our commitments:***

- 1. Awareness campaigns about domestic violence and the involvement of differently disabled people, young people out of formal education, and other minorities in the membership and leadership of our movement in order to understand and improve their reality.*
- 2. The promotion of dialogue of cultures and respect between religions.*
- 3. Organize educational events at national and regional levels to inform and generate awareness among students about the reality of economic poverty and the need of creativity for self-employment.*
- 4. To promote sustainable development and implement sound environmental practices.*
- 5. Campaigning for the full participation of young people in achieving full democracy and good governance.*

***Council Insights: Lama Tanjar, JEC Lebanon***

During the IYCS JECI Global Formation Session in India, I learned a lot from the study sessions because I was exposed to many types of conflicts around the world. I got the chance to know what is happening in other countries by participating in lots of group discussions. And I learned how to act in order to find solutions for these problems and how to offer hope as a student by applying the YCS review of life, which was favorite Session. It's important to apply the YCS review of life in our daily life as a way of living and thinking because it defines us as YCSers, in order to be close followers of Jesus Christ.



## *Climate Change*

- P. Larancia, Exco of Tamilnadu



Climate change is the most severe problem that we are facing today. Earth's climate has been changing for billions of years. Global climate change is caused by accumulation of green house gases in the lower atmosphere. The global concentration of these gases is increasing day by day mainly due to human activities such as the combustion of fossil fuels which release carbon dioxide and deforestation because forest removes carbon from atmosphere. The atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide, the main green house gas, has increased by 30% preindustrial times.

Climate change is very likely to affect the frequency and intensity of weather events, such as storms and floods, around the world. Climate change will also cause sea level rise due to the thermal expansion of the oceans and the melting of the mountain glaciers. Global mean sea level is anticipated to rise by 15 to 95 centimeters by 2100. The faster the climate changes, the greater will be the risk of damage to the environment.

### **Impacts of climate change:**

**ON HEALTH:** To assess the potential impacts of climate change on health, it is necessary to consider both the sensitivity and vulnerability of populations for specific health outcomes to changes in temperature, rainfall, humidity, storminess, and so on. Vulnerability is a function both of the changes to exposure in climate and of the ability to adapt to that exposure.

**NATURAL DISASTERS:** Climate change will increase the risk of both floods and droughts. Ninety percent of disaster victims worldwide live in developing countries, where poverty and population pressures force growing numbers of people to live in harm's way—on flood plains and on unstable hillsides. Unsafe buildings compound the risks. The vulnerability of those living in risk-prone areas is perhaps the single most important cause of disaster casualties and damage.

**FOOD SECURITY:** Current assessments of the impact of climate change indicate that some regions are likely to benefit from increased agricultural productivity while others may suffer reductions, according to their location and dependence on the agricultural sector. Climate change may increase yields of cereal grains at high and mid latitudes but may decrease yields at lower latitudes. The world's food system may be able to accommodate such regional variations at the global level, with production levels, prices, and the risk of hunger being relatively unaffected by the additional stress of climate change. However, populations in isolated areas with poor access to markets may still be vulnerable to locally important decreases or disruptions in food supply.

**Adaptation and Mitigation:** There are two responses to global climate change

**MITIGATION:** Intervention or policies should be to reduce the emissions or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases. The current international legal mechanism for countries to reduce their emissions is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

**ADAPTATION:** Responses to the changing climate (e.g., acclimatization in humans) and policies to minimize the predicted impacts of climate change (e.g., building better coastal defenses). Ignoring climate change will be the most costly of all possible choices, for us and our children. THINK THRICE AND ACT WISE.

<b>DIOCESAN REPORTS- Chennai, Tamilnadu</b>				
<b>S. NO</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT NAME</b>	<b>THEME</b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>16/07/2011</b>	<b>INAUGURATION OF YCS/YSM</b>	<b>General Body meeting&amp; Basics of YCS/YSM</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>30/07/2011</b>	<b>ANIMATOR'S TRAINING PROGRAM</b>	<b>Animator's basics &amp; Model Cell meeting</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>13/08/2011</b>	<b>INAUGURATION OF YCS UNITS AT VICARIATE LEVEL</b>	<b>Orientation to YCS Students on the Basics of YCS/YSM&amp; Model Cell meeting</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>21/08/2011</b>	<b>INAUGURATION OF YCS UNITS AT THE VICARIATE LEVEL</b>	<b>Basics of YCS/YSM</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>17/09/2011</b>	<b>YCS/YSM INDIA</b>	<b>Workshop on Food crisis</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7/10/2011 8/10/2011</b>	<b>ZONAL YCSYSM TRAINING PROGRAM</b>	<b>Nature and Environment</b>	<b>45</b>



## **National Student Leaders Training Programme- Jhansi (Hindi) 24<sup>th</sup> TO 28<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

- Fr. Julian, Daphne, Sharine

**24.09.'11:** The National Student Leadership Training Programme was held at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Jhansi from 24.09.'11 to 28.09.'11. Many were invited for the programme but only few responded to it. 10 participants from Orissa and 16 from Jhansi came for the programme and showed keen interest in the leadership programme.



The programme began with the warm welcome by Fr. Richard the Regional Chaplain followed by lighting of the lamp by Rev. Fr. Charles 'The National Chaplain of YCS/YSM', Fr. Peter Parapullil, the Vicar General of Jhansi Diocese, Sugandha and Angela Fernandez on the part of the participants. After a prayer dance, a short cultural programme was held in honor of the eminent guest and the participants. A skit based on neat and clean environment was appreciated and applauded by all. After that Holy Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Peter Parapullil.

The first session began after lunch by Rev. Fr. Richard. At first all the participants and animators gave self introduction and later they were divided into 4 groups named on different types of environments. Then Fr. Richard continued his talk on 'WORLD - GIFT OF GOD TO HUMANITY' based on creation account of the scripture from Genesis Chap 1. In the second session at 6:30 he continued the theme with another enriching topic on USES AND ABUSES of this world gift of God to humanity. He also gave a gist of the history of YCS/YSM. He made his talk simple and interesting with the Power Point Presentation. A skit on environment was put up during the cultural evening by U.P. Region YCS/YSM.

**25.09.'11:** The day began with Rev. Fr. Kantharaj, the Director of the Pastoral Center, Jhansi celebrating the Holy Mass on the theme GOD IN NATURE. At 8:30 the participants were informed about the exposure programme to 4 different sights keeping in view environment as the theme of YCS/YSM. The groups were taken to Railway



Station & surroundings, Orcha the panoramic tourist site, Sabji Mandi (Vegetable Market) and to the slums. The purpose of the exposure programme was to make the participants to reflect on the YCS Methodology: 'See, Judge and Act,' on our environment. The groups met at 3:30 p.m. and held the analysis based on the exposure visit. At 6:30 p.m. all the groups shared their experiences and presented a

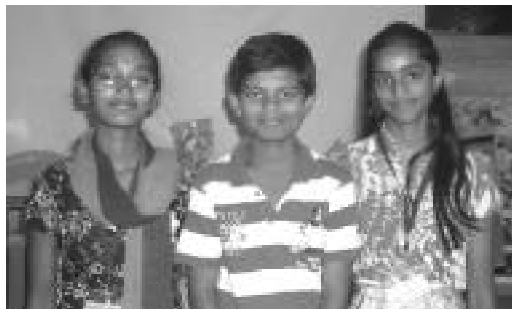
brief report. During the cultural event at 8:30 p.m. the groups depicted the pathetic condition of the environment they were exposed to in the form of skits and came out with the good & strong message to how to change the Environment.

**26.09.'11:** The day began with a morning prayer conducted by Rev. Fr. George Chakallakal. Then Rev. Fr. Peter took up the sessions of the day as the main resource person with the theme based on EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP. He began his session with 2 group games and hinted out certain acts done by the leaders and the group members. Further in social analysis he spoke about the leadership in general, its qualities, types, etc. In session 5, he spoke about the social reality and YCS/YSM leadership, elaborating the need of taking leadership in society and neighborhood – How and when, responsibility, environment and our response –to save earth –ways and means. In the evening Holy Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Christudas who in his sermon preached on the need to give up selfishness and live for others taking the examples from nature. At 8:30 p.m. the children put up their creative ideas into skits on different environmental themes. After the rosary everybody went to bed

**27.09.'11:** The day began with Morning Prayer lead by Rev. Fr. Charles. Rev. Fr. Arul Raj was the main resource person of the day with his team comprising of Rev. Fr. Kantaraj and Rev. Fr. Christudas and Sr. Christine. A movie based on environment was shown to the participants and feedback was taken at regular intervals. The movie gave the message how to save earth from massive URBANIZATION at the expense of our beautiful earth for selfish motives. Then Rev. Fr. Kantaraj through the illustration of a story made us aware of need of protecting our natural resources. He also spoke about the Chipko movement in brief. After tea, Rev. Fr. Christudas took up the session. He gave a scientific presentation of the origin of the world and human beings. He also gave weight to his Thesis by taking some examples from different religious beliefs. He also spoke about the legal aspect of the government policies and environment. In the evening Sr. Christine talked on good leadership through group games and power point presentation.

**28.09.'11:** In the morning after the prayers students displayed charts on environment and explained them with good morals. A short evaluation was done through a questionnaire for their personal experience. Then an action plan was prepared taking into account all that is learnt during the National Students Leaders Training Programme.

At the concluding programme a cultural program was put up by the participants based on their experience and gave a strong message *save nature and make earth*. Rev. Fr. James SDB was the chief guest of concluding ceremony. Fr. Peter Parapullil gave away the certificates and gifts to the participants. Fr. Richard thanked all those were a part of his team. Fr. Charles gratefully acknowledged the good work done by the Jhansi team and thanked them. Fr. Peter offered the final thanksgiving Eucharist and then everybody said good bye to each other with a strong resolution to be good leaders to save our mother earth.



### **Introducing New Exco's**

**Sugandha Barla, Orissa**

**Francis Clauzely, UP**

**Angela Fernandez, UP**

### **Introducing New IYCS Advisory Board Member (IAB)**

The 14th IYCS World Council in India also elected the new International Advisory Board Members for the mandate of 2011-2015. They are:

- ✓ Mgr Robert Vitillo, Head of International Delegation in Geneva for Caritas Internationalis
- ✓ Mrs Teresa Mourad, IYCS Asian Team Coordinator 1989—1992 and now Director of Education and Diversity Programs, Ecological Society of America, USA
- ✓ Fr. Michael Deeb, IYCS International Chaplain 1999—2007 and now Coordinator of Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference Justice and Peace
- ✓ Manoj Mathew, Former IYCS Secretary General 2003-2007
- ✓ Gerard Kabore, Former IYCS African Regional Coordinator 2007-2011
- ✓ Loucille Alcala, Former IYCS Program Coordinator 2007-2011.

## **UNTIL I MET YOU REDEEMER**

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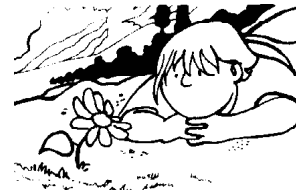
*Souls of the world  
So dark and hard  
Difficult to break  
Through the core  
Stubborn and Rigid*

*Nowhere out  
No light can I see  
Groping am I in the dark  
Too much to take in  
Pain, failure, hatred, prejudice, fear, and frustration.*

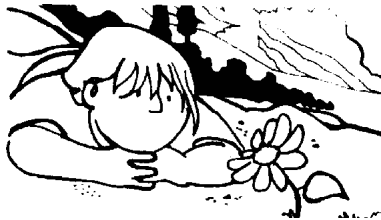


**-Marina Monalisa Das,  
Auxilium Convent,  
Dum Dum, Kolkata**

*Until, I met You  
It was your light  
That lit my world  
You gave me a reason  
To live a life worthwhile*



*Through that sacred heart  
Of yours my Lord  
You broke those rigid walls  
Setting me free  
And I can proudly say  
I'm liberated by the blood of Christ the king.*



*Your words made my world  
So sweet and so pure  
My Redeemer, my God  
I owe all to you  
Christ my king.*

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## **Report: Inter Regional Student Leadership Training Programme, Shillong**

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### **North East and West Bengal Region**

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**Theme: “Students for Green and Harmonious World”**

**Excerpts of inaugural speech by Most Rev. John Moolachira,  
Coadjutor Bishop of Guwahati**

**God planted a garden** (Gn 2:8) and there he put the man he created. He then let every type of plant to grow that is pleasing to the sight and good for food. He saw that everything he created was good. God walked in the garden in the cool of the evening breeze (Gn 3:8)

But our forests are disappearing and the trees are cut and sold for a pittance, hills are cleared for Jhum cultivation (recently number of villages in Nagaland have decided to give up Jhum cultivation), industries are set up that are belching out smoke, town life depends on fossil oil and electricity which pollutes atmosphere. So there is global warming, acid rain, ozone depletion, climate change, loss of biodiversity. (Scientists have now calculated 1.7 million species of living beings. It might have been 20 or 30 million some years ago. 30 species are becoming extinct every day. Every species has its position in the ecosystem and we cannot afford to lose them. It is like losing a limb). There is desertification, depletion of underground water, pollution of rivers and seas as waste are dumped into them, 40% of the world population does not have fresh drinking water. This is a universal phenomenon. Developing countries have restricted waste disposal system but pollution is still contributed to. As we look at the list we see that trees are all manmade evils.

**Prophet Isaiah** (24: 5-11) sees earth dried up and weathered, earth polluted under its inhabitants.... And the inhabitants suffer, their numbers dwindle and there is no joy in the city.

Now we have environmental refugees who flee their country as it is eaten up by rising waters due to global warming and melting of solar ice caps, there are others who are refugees due to large dams created which not only drowned their farm lands but they are displaced and not provided proper means of settling down.

**Robin Hood** lived with his merry men in Sherwood Forest in England. Now where the woods are? There are environmental crisis. People are looking for short time benefits and we are leaving the world a miserable place for the future generations.

Forests are important. It keeps the atmosphere cool, emits oxygen and takes in carbon dioxide. It prevents erosion of the top soil; it lets water sink into underground. 50% of medical herbs are found in rain forests and they are cut down callously every day. Quinine of malaria fame was noticed as forest product. 70% drugs that show promise of a cure for cancer is found in rain forest. Rain forests are thick forests found in tropical regions which are rich in flora and fauna which keeps many species alive.

**What does the Church teach?** God made man the Steward (caretaker of the creation). He is not its master or owner. Man received it as a gift. We cultivate it responsibly and share it justly and we are accountable for its use.

**Pope John Paul II** said that "Concern for creation is an essential part of our faith"

**Vatican** state has neutralized carbon emission by buying a forest in Hungary and maintaining it that the carbon it absorbs and the oxygen it emits is equalized by the carbon it emits in Vatican. Nervi Hall in Vatican which can accommodate few lakhs of people is from solar energy for its heating and cooling and lightening. Seeing the example of Vatican churches and institutions are going for lawns, organic gardening, using renewable and biodegradable materials for construction. Some have taken a step further in using waste tires and other non degradable materials of construction that these do not cause environmental damage.

In South America there is something known as **PADRE POWER**. It means the leadership exerted by the priests not to let the land of farmers be given to multinationals who do not have environmental interest in their agenda. They should see that there is no pollution caused, garbage is properly disposed, and greenery is encouraged.

Greening the earth is a necessity. We have to get into reforestation. Introduce methods that will reduce carbon emission, prevent loss of species. Planting of cash crops are not greening. From the same type of trees allows one or two other green plants to grow under it and only one or two types of birds and animals survive in it. Eg: Ethiopia

We have friends like **St. Francis of Assisi** who was a friend of all living beings. There was peace and harmony.

**Isaiah** speaks(11:6-9) of wolf and lamb living together, calf and lion and a child leading them, cow and bear grazing together, lion eat straw, the child play in the asp and put its hand in the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy one another for the earth is full of knowledge of God.

In short we should not exploit nature.

We call the earth "**Mother**". Our ancestor's body is mixed with the earth. It provides us food, water and fresh air. It refreshes and inspires us to aesthetic beauty.

The more we are in harmony with nature the more human we become. If we can enjoy the beauty of a flower, of a sunset of the distant green hills we are in harmony with nature and it naturally follow we are in harmony with other men.

We must plant trees, kind to living creatures, avoid using plastic materials which cannot be broken down into dust, learn to recycle things, avoid wastage of anything.

I wish that you YCS/YSMers play an important role in safeguarding the environment and make this earth a better place to live. God bless you.

### Report

**1-10-11:** The participants arrived at Pastoral Centre in the morning. After registration at 10 am the participants were given the knowhow of the place, programme rules, regulations regarding time table and the flow of the programme. They were introduced to each other through group dynamics.

The Chief Guest Rt. Rev Bishop John Moolachira, Coadjutor Archbishop of Guwahati Diocese was welcomed and all the participants came together for the Holy Eucharist at 5pm. After the Mass the programme was formally inaugurated by His grace followed by a short introduction and cultural programme by the local YCS/YSM units.

Former DYD Fr. Paul O. Lyngkot, Director, Missionary Aspirantate, Tezpur Diocese conducted the group dynamics in the evening and set things in motion regarding the Leadership training. The day was concluded with night Prayer.



**2-10-11:** The day started with a Holy Eucharist at 6:45 am celebrated by Fr. Mark Lakra RYD, North East region.

At 8:45am Fr. Antony, Asst Principal of Elias High School, Mawlai conducted the session on Motivational leadership and Personality development in which he gave the gist of leadership skills to the participants and made them aware of the energy and the talents we possess to handle any situation in the time of crisis as a leader. At 10:45am by Fr Anthony continued with the session on Leadership skills and made them aware how positive self esteem helps one to take up leadership in the society and schools. He explained the difference between persons with high and low self esteem. How the highly effective people perform in the given situation is also dealt with by him.

Post lunch a session on Animation and leadership dynamics was taken by Mr. Ronie Wahlang, DYP of Shillong in which he made the participants understand the leadership dynamics and the role of the Animators in dealing with students. Being an animator himself he guided the participants to query about the role of an effective animator and social leadership skills.

Later in the evening Fr. Charles Menezes, the National Chaplain of YCS/YSM, India took a session on Methodology/spirituality of YCS/YSM in which he explained the dynamics of the movement and how it helps the leadership qualities of a person to deal with the environmental situations. At 7.15 pm we had prayer service which was followed by dinner. Organized Recreation at 8:45pm delighted the participants after a heavy day and the day concluded with a night prayer.

**03-10-11:** The day began with Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist at 6:45 am lead by Fr. Charles Menezes. After breakfast and animation at 7:45 am to 8:30 am, first session of the day started at 8:45 am on Environmental Degradation, Ecological crisis and climate change by Fr. Robin Gomes, Regional Chaplain of West Bengal. Basing on Bible he elaborated how human kind has degraded the earth and why we need to set it right. He gave the facts and figures of climate change and how it affects us today. He also gave us the hints how we can make a difference in the earth by being very sensitive to the needs of the earth by planting trees and keeping the surroundings clean for a better tomorrow.





Session on Human Rights was taken up at 10:45 am by Mr. Emelan Kharmawlong, Shillong in which he elaborated the meaning of Rights, Human rights and violation of human rights. He dealt with violation of women rights especially since they are the ones who are vulnerable to this situation.

After lunch the students and animators were taken to Don Bosco museum, Shillong for cultural exposure which enriched them very much. Basing on the visit to the museum we had a quiz competition and it made all aware of the rich cultural heritage of North east.

All came together for Taize prayer at 7:00 pm lead by Miss Careen Dkhar together with her team. Taize prayer was a new and enriching experience for many of the participants. It was then followed by dinner and region wise Cultural Programme and night prayer

**4-10-11:** The day began with an organized morning prayer at 6:45am lead by Fr. Robin Gomes. After breakfast and animation a session on Challenges of Teenage was taken up by Fr. Mark Lakra, RYD, North East Region in which he enlightened the participants the common problems faced by the teenagers and the ways to tackle it. With various examples he made them aware to handle the situation systematically and explained the means to do it. The school and church along with the student movement should take up this issue seriously so that teenagers are not lead astray rather taken care of. He also explained the methodology of the movement which is a very good tool to tackle such problems and the way to do it.

Then a session on Self Analysis and Youth Leadership was conducted by Mr. Joydeep Lang Toppo RYP, North east Region in which he enlightened the participants about the way of analyzing the personal life situation and setting goals to achieve the target as young leaders of the society.

After lunch there was a session by Fr Robin Gomes was on Communicative skills on leadership in which he explained the need of ID setting, Life motivation, Capacity for evaluation, Tendency to do good, Love for culture, role of language, music, religion, encountering media and meeting problems and crisis was explained elaborately.

In the evening at 6.30pm Archbishop Dominic Jala, Archbishop of Shjillong offered Mass for us and blessed us to do good in the society citing the example of St. Francis Assisi who was one with the nature and asked the participants to be one with the nature which is a gift of God to us.

The day ended with cultural programme at individual capacities in which most of them got a chance to exhibit their talents. There were also many items performed by all the participants from different tribes which really inspired a lot to every one and had fun. The day end up with a small prayer

**5.10.2011:** The day began with the Mass offered by Fr. Robin Gomes. After breakfast group discussions and presentations were held based on the theme and showcased the charts and reports prepared by the groups. It was then followed by plan of action to deal with the present situation and the role of the YCS/YSM Movement. All were very happy with the input given and the flow of the programme. They decided to disseminate the knowledge to other members of the movement by holding such sessions on leadership skills.

All decided to take up the issue of environment to the individual units and make the members aware through various means to work for the Mother earth. Then group and individual evaluation was conducted to know how much the participants have assimilated the topics dealt with for the past four days. After dinner Archbishop Dominic Jala presided over the valedictory function and presented the certificates and mementoes to the participants and wished them well in their pursuit of changing the world as change agents in the movement and society. Two of the participants shared their experiences of the programme. The programme ended with the pledge taken by the participants to work for the environmental protection. Participants left the venue with heavy hearts being one with each other for five useful days.

**- Cuthbert Sohtun, Shillong and Grace, Aizwal.**

**Unfaded Memories: - Amit Runda, YCS/YSM India**

They say, "Memories are the best treasures of life, because it flashes back and makes you smile." I have put the memories of IYCS Global Formation Session & World Council in my treasury, it does make me smile when I remember and makes me feel proud of belonging to a movement rather a family that is so vast and diverse. It was the first time I have attended the WC and contributing to it as an LOC makes me feel even greater. Working with different people, learning new things, getting to know others way of thinking, fellowship and of course I will never forget running the photo copying machine (toner getting over-papers, out of stock, running for help, getting hyper!!). thought it was for the first time I ever operated a photo copying machine and printing papers in bulk but I think I did it well...thanks to Samuel for his help! I still laugh at myself remembering what I had said *"I think I can run a photocopying shop now..."*



Each one was at their best during the council. I just want to say thank you for coming to India and a big hug to all the LOC for their work and Fr Charles for accepting to host the WC and to Eduardo, Loucille and Fr Paul for everything. Every moment of the WC is still fresh in my mind. Each one of you has become a part of my treasure. The WC had left an indelible mark in mind....I shall cherish it forever....

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**Suzan with Sr. Jeanne Devos**

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We were just over with the 14th World Council in New Delhi, a proud moment for India to have hosted it, and of course really well. I was selected to join for a camp in Denmark too, that was a week after the council, so I intentionally stayed back in the city to explore and get ready for the camp. I am grateful to Fr. Alwyn and the other ICYM office member to allow me shelter at their ICYM Home in New Delhi. I stayed there and got a chance to also explore the ICYM headquarters. I had planned the week, which places to visit, where to shop and with whom to shop, begged God if he could shower me with a blessing of seeing a celebrity or a politician really close. It was fun managing everything myself away from home. Being in YCS as a member, as a DEXCO, as a NEXCO and then as the National Convener we used to go through the history at every stage, and revise the statute's, there was one name that always was present in all our orientation programs, and thank you speeches, and that was of Sr. Jeanne Devos, our Foundress.



It was one fine day in the week that I was there in New Delhi, was rushing to complete a file work, before leaving office for shopping, when I suddenly heard Fr. Alwyn say aloud in the nearby cabin, "O what a surprise! It nice to see you here Sr. Jeanne". That was it, the last two words that made me rush out of my cubicle and peep into Father's chamber. There she was, a calm, somber, old lady; her hair neatly tied up into a bun, she looked coming right from a journey as she had quite a big bag with her. Her personality was amazing, she was Sr. Jeanne, the moment I saw her, all the pictures that I had ever seen of her in our files and presentations, just flashed across. It was the moment for me, to stand beside her, though I have a good height I felt quite small in front of her. The minute Fr. Alwyn spotted me at the door peeping in to take a look at her; he called me in, and introduced me as the former national convener. She just had to get my introduction and she pulled me by her side to appreciate and give a warm hug. We too didn't have much to speak to each other; it was only the joy of YCS fellowship that covered our faces. Since she was there only for a very short visit she had to leave, but I made sure not to miss the opportunity and get a picture clicked with her. God really had heard my prayer and had allowed me a chance to meet a "Celebrity" a real inspiration. I still remember that smile had lasted on my face the whole day, and it still keeps coming every time I share our meet with my fellow YCSers. She's a legend and I really don't need alphabets or words more than used in her name to describe that.

I wish if not all, those YCSers who can should try and make it to stand beside her, and get a picture clicked, it's really an honor.

## **Visitation and Training Programmes**

1. Fr. Charles took part in the ICYM general meeting at Nagpur from 8-11 July 2011 in which he interacted with many of the DYDs and encouraged them to start and revive YCS/YSM in their Dioceses. He gave a session on YCS/YSM.
2. Fr. Charles participated in the Tamilnadu Regional Directors meeting at Trichy on 22-23 of July 2011 and interacted with the Directors. He appreciated the efforts made by the Directors, Animators and Full timers in guiding the YCS/YSM in their Dioceses. He also witnessed the REXCO election and encouraged the office bearers to build this movement.
3. Fr. Charles guided the Animators Training at St. Kevin's on 30<sup>th</sup> July with the help of Bro Arun, Leo and Deepak. 50 Animators took part in it.
4. Fr. Charles inaugurated a YCS unit in Derebail, Mangalore on 31<sup>st</sup> July which consists of 80 members. He wished success in all their endeavours in building a New Society.
5. Fr. Charles took part in the WYD at Madrid, Spain in August 2011. He participated in the programme organized by IYCS Paris among one of the items of the WYD.
6. Fr. Charles guided in the Delhi Diocese YCS/YSM Animators and Student training programme on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2011. Fr. Chetan, DYD of Delhi had organized the programme in which 16 students from 4 schools took part and were made aware of the movement. Hope Delhi will witness revival of the movement soon.
7. Fr. Charles also took part in organizing Workshop on Food Crisis at Chennai on 17<sup>th</sup> Sept, NSLTP in Jhansi from 24-28 Sept and Inter Regional Programme at Shillong from 1-5 October. During which he interacted with Fr. Richard DYD of Jhansi and Sacred Heart Seminary brothers at Shillong Jerry, Saman, Constantine, Sajin, Simmy and Ajjju.
8. Fr. Charles interacted with the Kolkata YCS group en route to Shillong and planned for the next NTA/Exco meeting in Kolkata on 17-18 December. He also met and Fr. Robin Gomes, the West Bengal Regional Chaplain and got briefed about the future course of action.
9. Fr. Charles guided the Jowai Diocesan YCS group in their first ever Commitment day on 7-8 Oct 2011. 53 Students and animators from 4 schools took part in it. Thanks to the efforts of Tiewly. Salan and Sr. Bhanumati. Cuthbert the National YCS/YSM Treasurer accompanied him. Fr. Marius and Fr. Manoj Antony witnessed the programme and assured their support.  
Fr. Charles visited Aizwal Diocesan Rising Day celebration on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2011. It was a great occasion for the embers to celebrate their annual day. Over 300 student members participated in it and put up a good entertainment programme. Along with Bishop Stephen the Sunday school leaders were present for the occasion. He recognized the efforts of Ms. Rebecca Kiangte, the Diocesan YCS coordinator towards YCS and accompanied her and Sr. Bhanumati to visit a few units on 10th Oct.

### **Cell Meeting – Lesson Plan 1. Food and Farmer**

**Introduction:** Raman was a hard working person. He lived with his wife and seven children. He had a small piece of land and all of them would work hard to make the ends meet. Due to his poverty he could educate his children. Some of them went to class 3 or 4 and then stayed at home to work in the fields so that they may get something to eat.

As usual as a poor man he had seven children and they were his asset. Hard work and patience were his values. He tried to feed his wife and children sacrificing his food at times and due to this he became weak and often fell sick. He took a loan from the bank to cultivate more so that he can earn more but due to lack of rain or pests he lost his crop. His loan and the interest grew too much and for which he had no means to repay the loan. His children grew up but due to lack of education and lack of job he could not make the ends meet. One fine day he ended his life consuming poison leaving behind 8 people who has no way to go.

**Awareness:** Deepen the fact with these questions.

- What is the reality? Why is this situation?
- Who are involved in this and what is their attitude towards life?
- Have you come across this kind of incidents?
- What are the causes of this situation and what are the consequences?

**Reflection:** Analyze the situation taking into consideration the poverty and population.

- If you were a member of this family what would be your attitude towards this situation?
- What are the values involved in this? Which values would have changed the situation?
- What does your religion speak about the poor and this situation?
- What is your decision for self transformation?

**Action:** Take prompt action to become aware of the plight of the farmer.

- What is your decision for change?
- What is your cell/unit's decision for change?
- What activity you undertake to experience this situation? When and How?

**Proposed activity:**

1. Make a study on the farmers committing suicide and the reasons behind it
2. Visit a farmers family to understand their life situation
3. Arrange a work camp at a farmers house to experience hardships of manual work
4. Make a study on the food items we buy from the grocery shop and learn where they come from

**Evaluation:** After the activity come together in the cell and share your experiences. If you have changed your attitude about the poor farmers share it with your cell members. If you have failed to understand the situation what would be your action as an YCS/YSM member?

### **Note: National Chaplain speaks...**

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1. Hope you have received the copy of IYCS Souvenir, if someone wants a copy kindly give a call to the YCS office, Chennai.
2. Kindly send me the Unit addresses of your Diocese (Add new units also). Every unit will get a copy of the Search. This is the 10th reminder to you (for those who have not sent).
3. Kindly elect DEXCO - Diocesan Team of Students (DTS) comprising of Diocesan President, Secretary and Treasurer elected from among the office bearers of all the units in the Diocese. Organize an office bearers meeting at the Diocesan level in the beginning of the academic year to train them in their duties and elect the DEXCO. (Their term is for one year)

*If you have separate units at Parishes (YCS) and Schools (YSM), form Separate YCS – DEXCO for the Parish units and YSM - DEXCO for the School units. It will involve more student leaders in the training process.*

Kindly promote YCS units for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Std in the Parishes (for the age group of 15 to 18) wherever possible to inculcate Christian values and faith formation to our teenagers.

*Remember to make it a Cell based movement and follow the Methodology strictly in cell meetings.*

4. Kindly elect REXCO – Regional Team of Students comprising of Regional President, Secretary and Treasurer. You need to organize the meeting of DYD and 2 regional representatives of all the Dioceses and elect the REXCO. (Their term could be two years)

*National Exco members will play an important role in training the REXCO. (Their term is for three years)*

5. **The Search:** Kindly promote student members to pen their experiences and dreams for the Search magazine. This is their magazine and let their thoughts flow in this.
6. Kindly send the reports of the activities in your units, Dioceses, Regions to our email to be published in the website.

**Office email is [ycsysmindia@gmail.com](mailto:ycsysmindia@gmail.com)**

**Website is [www.ycsysmindia.com](http://www.ycsysmindia.com)**

**Send your reports directly to [vincentmood@gmail.com](mailto:vincentmood@gmail.com)**

**(Who works for our website)**