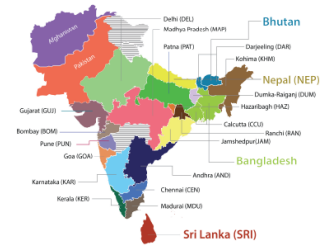




# SAAJN



SOUTH ASIAN ASSISTANCY ( CONFERENCE ) JESUIT NEWS

June 2022

225 Jor Bagh, New Delhi – 110 003

Fr Stany D'Souza, the POSA, attended the expanded Consult of Fr General in Rome from 30 May to 3 June and the meeting of the Presidents of the six Conferences on 4 June. He took the opportunity to visit those in training for the common houses in Europe.



## THE POSA'S PROGRAMS

### June

- 04: Meeting of Conference Presidents
- 05-12: Visit to Men in Europe
- 16: Meeting of LS - Online
- 17: Meeting of DoW - Online
- 18: Meeting of Secretaries - Online
- 20: Meeting of Min & Treas - Online

### July

- 05-06: The POSA Consult
- 11-15: Online Conference on Gender Sensitisation (CSHF)
- 15-16: Meeting of Socii
- 23: GB - ISIB

### August

- 05: The POSA Consult

09-12: Visitation - ISI D

18-19: Visitation - ISI B

26: GB - ISID

29: Meeting of Novice Masters (Shillong)

### September

01-05: Visitation - SN

07-08: The POSA Consult

12-16: Expanded Consult (Rome)

### October

01-5: Visitation - VJ

02: The POSA Consult

08-13: COJET (DAR)

17: Meeting of LS & DoW-Online

18: Meeting of Secretaries-Online

19: Meeting of Forums, Networks-Online

22-23: Visitation - Tertianship (Shembag)

23-30: JCSA Meeting at Shembag

### November

01-02: The POSA Consult

07-12: Visitation - DNC

15-18: Jesuit Counsellors' Meet (RAN)

19-20: Visitation - Tertianship (HAZ)

21-25: Visit to MAP Province

### December

03: The POSA Consult

05-18: DLP - Prerana

09-10: Jesuit Artists' Meet

18-20: Conference Presidents' Meet (USA)



## THE SECRETARIAT OF FAITH

One of the most fulfilling experiences in the recent past was of visiting parishes, communities and institutions of Jamshedpur Province, Kohima Region and Delhi Province. Fr Joseph Surin took me around Jamshedpur while Fr George Anthony took me to



the Orissa Mission. All pastors of Jamshedpur gathered for a half-day session in which we learned together about parish administration and animation. The unique ministry with

the tribals in interior places with all the challenges of distance, connectivity, poverty and the commitment of some of our Jesuits were both enriching and a learning experience.



Visiting the diverse Northeastern states beginning with Manipur, Nagaland, Meghalaya, and Assam for the first time was a unique and valuable experience for me. Their hospitality was amazing. The hard work of our Jesuits scattered in seven states, with the



challenges of language, dialects, culture, numerous tribes and other issues of Northeast, are truly awe inspiring. Meeting every parish priest personally and interacting with

catechists and parish council members in groups helped me to understand the unique situation of each parish in these states. I felt blessed having visited this gorgeous, picturesque land, listened



and shared some of insights on animation and administration of a parish but also became aware of varied contexts and the different approaches required to make the Jesuit parishes more vibrant, distinct and

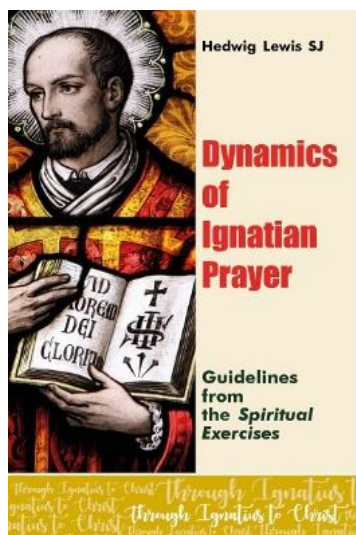
spiritual. A detailed report of my visit to the parishes was submitted to provincials and their teams for further discussion and discernment to make our parish ministry more effective.





The Secretariat of Faith along with Fr Victor Edwin, SJ jointly organized a webinar on 'Manifestations of clericalism in the Indian cultural context: an analysis in the light of Jim Keenan's essay on hierarchicalism' on 2 April, 2022. The speakers were Fr Stanislaus Alla SJ, Mrs Roushnee Sur and Sr Inigo.

daily life'. It is recommended for all friends and collaborators of Jesuits and it is available for sale from Gujarat Sahitya Prakash. I'm very grateful to Fr Hedwig and Fr Francis Parmar for writing and publishing the book and Fr Jerome Stanislaus D'Souza (POSA) for the encouragement and permission to execute this project.



As part of the Conference Apostolic Planning (CAP) project, the Secretariat of Faith brought out a printed copy of *Dynamics of Ignatian Prayer: Guidelines from the Spiritual Exercises* by Fr Hedwig Lewis, SJ. It is one of those unique handbooks on Ignatian spirituality that puts together information on various prayer forms that Saint Ignatius of Loyola proposes in the *Spiritual Exercises*. The book contains the essence of Ignatian spirituality as

practised today and serves as a guide and a reference manual for those making spiritual exercises in a 'closed' retreat or a 'retreat in

The Secretariat of Faith formed two groups of eight members each from India, for an International Ignatian Eco Spiritual Conference (IIEC2022) held from 25 to 30 April 2022. I was a facilitator for one of the groups.



The Roots & Wings 2022 was organised at Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur from 31 March to 30 April 2022. Through the support of provincials, we had

twenty-two participants, nineteen Jesuits from twelve provinces and three religious sisters who benefited greatly from this month-long programme on the foundational sources of the Society of Jesus. The scenic Shembag hills and excellent weather were ideal for a refreshing journey into the Ignatian spirituality. This year's Roots &





Wings programme was unique for two reasons. First, being the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the conversion of St Ignatius, 'seeing all things new in Christ' was truly the experience of the participants. Second, for



the first time, Roots and Wings was opened to religious sisters. The participants were very grateful to the Conference, the organisers, all resource persons and specially Sacred Heart College community for their excellent hospitality.

After having been entrusted an additional responsibility as the Director of the Centre for Ignatian Spirituality and Research at De Nobili College, Pune, Fr Arun has learned the nitty gritty of the Centre and planned the programmes for the whole year. The brochure of the Centre will be made available in June 2022.



*Fr Arun Kumar SJ*

## JEA SA REPORT

### ICAJE Meetings

There was an online meeting of International Commission on the Apostolate of Jesuit Education (ICAJE) members on Wednesday, February 9, 2022. Various issues were discussed during the meeting. The main agenda was to brief the members on the preparations underway for the offline ICAJE Meeting in Rome in May, 2022.



**Offline Meeting in Rome.** After a gap of two years, the physical meeting of ICAJE Members took place in Rome from May 17-20, 2022. Fr Ravi, SJ represented the South Asian



Conference. All members were present except the Conference Secretary of Latin America, Fr Joe Arimose, SJ and Ms



Catharine, the assistant to Worldwide Secretary for Jesuit Secondary Education due to medical reasons. Fr Ravi, SJ presented a detailed report on the status and activities of secondary education in South Asia. Several other important issues were discussed during the meeting – Catholic identity of our schools, the Jesuit Global Network of Schools, Planet Fraternity & the New







Global Compact, Educate Magis, Celebrating 50 Years of persons for Others, How can we listen to our students and youth in our schools, What actions can we implement to bring the voices of our students to ICAJE and our networks, Roles and responsibilities of the Education Delegates, WUJA Report, etc. It was also decided that the next physical meeting will be held in Rome from June 13-16, 2023.

**JEA Secretary's Visit to Kohima Region**

Fr Ravi, SJ visited all the Jesuit Schools in Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, and Nagaland under Kohima Region from April 18 to May 6, 2022. Due to some unavoidable reasons he could not visit our schools in Arunachal Pradesh which will be done later on. He held zonal-wise meetings with all the Jesuits working in schools in various

places and had some sessions as well on the latest document – *A Living Tradition: A Jesuit School in 21<sup>st</sup> century*. He interacted with the staff & students and addressed the assemblies in all the schools. He conducted career counseling sessions for the senior students of two colleges and a few schools. The Jesuits of Kohima Region are doing a commendable job in the field of education especially for the poor and needy. The hospitality and the commitment of Jesuits are highly praiseworthy.





## Training Sessions for Principals, Teachers and Senior Students by the JEA Secretary

1. Webinar on NEP 2020 for Teachers of Carmel School, Mumbai on Saturday, January 15, 2022.
2. Seminar on Synodality to Bambina Sisters in Delhi on January 20, 2022.
3. Seminar for Teachers of De Nobili Unit Schools (4 of them), Dhanbad from March 11-16, 2022.
4. Seminar for Teachers of Sacred Heart School and Sacred Heart International Schools, Ludhiana from March 21-24, 2022.
5. Seminar for the Teachers of Notre dame School, Najafgarh, Delhi on March 29, 2022.
6. Seminar for the Teachers of St Mary's School, Mayur Vihar, Delhi on March 30, 2022.
7. Seminar for Teachers & Senior Students of Holy Child School, Ghaziabad from April 7-9, 2022.
8. Leadership Training Program for the Jesuit Principals & Vice Principals of Madhya Pradesh Province at Pathalgaon from June 1-5, 2022.
9. Seminar on Synodality to Bambina Sisters in Sonapat, Haryana on June 18, 2022.
10. Seminar for the selected Teachers of Delhi Province at Sahayog, Delhi on June 21, 2022.

## Annual PCEs Meeting for 2021-22

The proposed annual PCEs meeting which was scheduled for January, 2022 was cancelled due to uncertainty looming over corona pandemic. The meeting was scheduled to be held at Ashirvad, Bangalore. The next Annual PCEs Meeting is scheduled during Dussehra holidays in the first week of October, 2022. The details are being finalized.



## Hazaribagh, Ranchi and Jamshedpur Provinces get new PCEs



**Fr Ranjit Marandi, SJ** took over as the new PCE of Hazaribagh Province. JEA SA is grateful to the outgoing PCE, **Fr P.J. James, SJ** for his several contributions and active participation in all the activities and meetings of the JEA. We wish him good luck for his new assignment at Loyola College, Williamnagar, Meghalaya.

**Fr Kuruvilla, SJ** assumed office as the new PCE of Jamshedpur Province. We gratefully acknowledge the contributions made by the outgoing PCE, **Fr P. Tony Raj, SJ** towards the JEA SA for the past several years and wish him all the best for his new assignment as the Principal of a school.



**Fr Florence Kujur, SJ** is the new PCE of Ranchi Province. He replaces **Fr Erentius Minj, SJ** who is appointed as the Ranchi Archdiocesan Secretary for Education. We acknowledge his contributions towards the JEA SA and wish him all the best.

## 5<sup>th</sup> National Governing Council Meeting of JAAI held in Kolkata

The 5<sup>th</sup> National Governing Council Meeting of JAAI was held at St Xavier's Collegiate School campus, Kolkata hosted by the alumni



association of the school from March 26-27, 2022. For the first time, the JAAI GC members spent half-a-day in recollection meditating on 'the cannonball moment' of St Ignatius of Loyola on 26<sup>th</sup> March from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm followed by lunch. **Fr John Ravi, SJ**, the National Advisor of Jesuit Alumni accompanied the group through a PPT presentation and invited the members for an inner-transformation. The members also spent an hour in Spiritual Conversation which they appreciated very much. Kolkata province alumni meeting was held at St Xavier's Collegiate School on March 26 at 3.00 pm.

JAAI North Council Meeting was also held in the same venue on March 26 at 4.15 pm followed by Cocktail & dinner.

JAAI GC Meeting was held at Xavier Hall, St Xavier's Collegiate School on Sunday, March 27, 2022. **Fr Stany D'Souza, SJ**, the POSA delivered the inaugural address. His presence was appreciated by the members. The meeting ended at 1.00 pm followed by lunch.

*Fr John Ravi, SJ  
Secretary, JEA SA*



## NEWS FROM THE PWPN/EYM NATIONAL OFFICE

In November I was able to visit two Syro-Malabar seminaries of Ujjan and Satna, and addressed one hundred and forty seminarians and fifteen staff members besides visiting the two local Bishops, and addressing fifty-eight LDFX sisters and fifteen Jesuit pre-novices in Gujarat.

December saw me in Allahabad at the major seminary addressing seventy seminarians and staff, thirty-one CSN and eighteen CJ sisters with their candidates at their provincialates, nineteen Jesuit juniors with four Jesuit priests, seventeen sisters of St Anne's of Charity and nine Vedruna sisters at Vinayalaya, Mumbai



I was confined to my room for three weeks in January due to Covid19 infection.

In the month of February, I addressed thirty-six priests and sisters at NVSC and twenty sisters of twenty congregations at CSW, Jnana Deepa, Pune.



In March I addressed ten Jesuit novices and nineteen Canossian Daughters of Charity at Desur near Belgaum besides eighteen novices and nine tertians of the Congregation of Carmelite Religious, twenty-three FMM and ten Amravati Holy Cross Sisters and their formees in Pune.



In April, I addressed eight Discalced Carmelites in their monastery and nine RSCJ Sisters in Pune.



I shifted my residence and office to the POSA curia at Jor Bagh, New Delhi on 7 May 2022.

### Pope's intention for the month of June

The perfect family doesn't exist, because we all have defects and because problems are never lacking. But it is precisely by accepting differences that we grow in love, and 'love in the family', Francis reminds us this month in his video, offered by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, "is a personal path of holiness for each of us," made of concrete gestures and mistakes from which we can always learn.

<https://youtu.be/mBddokJFxCU>

*Fr Jagdish Parmar, SJ*





**ACADEMIC MILESTONES**

On 4 February 2022, we had a fruitful philosophizing session using the hermeneutical method animated by **Fr Sathya Balan** on the theme, "Primacy of the Author or Primacy of the Text". The second-



year scholastics had their Yoga Classes from 31 January to 9 February, and the first-year scholastics from 11 to 20 February 2022. **Fr Murala Jagadish**, the Yoga Master, guided them with his scholarly

expertise. The departmental seminar on 'Discovering Self: Multidimensional Perspectives' was held at Satya Nilayam on 11

February 2022. The resource persons, **Dr Francis Xavier**, **Dr Chandrashekar**, **Dr Murala Jagdish SJ**, **Fr Martin Kumar** and **Fr Lindsay Lobo** presented their papers on 'Discovering Self' from the scientific, philosophical, ethical and moral-social perspectives respectively. Kudos to **Fr Murala Jagadish** who was the convener of this seminar.

On 12 February, a program on life-skills was conducted by **Mr Arvind Joseph**, a professional skill trainer for all the second-year scholastics. **Sch. Patrick Tirkey (HAZ)** from Satya Nilayam presented a paper on 'Awakening to Authentic Self – A Philosophical Response' in the inter-seminary philosophical symposium organized by De Mazenod Institute of Philosophy, Chennai. We also had Loy Memorial Lecture on 'Synodality-Journeying Together' by **Rev Dr Vincent Chinnadurai**, Episcopal Vicar for the laity of the Archdiocese of Madras-Mylapore, on 15 February at Satya Nilayam. On 1 March, on the occasion of the International Women's Day, Satya Nilayam organized a special lecture



on 'Women and Education' given by **Dr Asha Alexander**, Women's Christian College, Chennai. The insightful session brought out how affective feminist epistemology could bring forth positive changes in our society if we educate and empower women. On 4 March, we had





the fifth philosophizing session on 'Ethnomethodology' animated by **Dr Lawrence Fernandes**. On 5 March, the first-year scholastics had their one-day Chennai Darshan. We had Satya Nilayam Senate meeting on 14 March after which we had the signing of MoU between Loyola College and Sacred Heart College in the presence of Fr Stany D'Souza, SJ, the POSA, and the Rectors and officials of both the institutes. We then had the release of 'Sat-Sophia', the Satya Nilayam annual magazine and 'Satya Nilayam Symphonies', SHC-SN e-newsletter. On 18 March, we had another philosophizing session animated by **Dr Murala Jagadish** who introduced the intuitional framework of philosophizing. The first-year scholastics, as part of their optional course on "Philosophy of Popular Religiosity", were taken by **Fr Lawrence Fernandes** to the seven churches in and around Chennai to have an actual experience of popular religiosity. The staff completed the long process of restructuring M.A. Philosophy syllabus in the Learning Outcome Based Curriculum Framework (LOCF) which will be effective from the next academic year 2022-2023.

## SPIRITUAL MILESTONES

We had two special recollections on 'Poverty' from 5 to 6 February and 18 to 19 February meaningfully guided by **Fr Robin Seelan**. On 12 March 2022, the community of Satya Nilayam celebrated in a grand manner the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the canonization of St Ignatius of Loyola and St Francis Xavier. We had the solemn Eucharistic celebration in Inigo Garden and a sumptuous dinner with nearly a hundred guests.



On 23 March, the second-year scholastics had their thanksgiving pilgrimage to Velankanni. On 26 March, the first-year scholastics and the staff went on a picnic cum pilgrimage to Vedanthangal bird sanctuary and Mazhai Malai Madha Shrine at Acharappakkam.



Satya Nilayam Jesuits actively participated in a one-day Ignatian Research Seminar on "Walking with Ignatius as Co-Pilgrims" organized by Chennai Jesuits on 2 April 2022 in Loyola College, Chennai. **Fr Jagadish Murala** presented the paper titled, 'The Spiritual Exercises: Psychosocial Perspectives.' **Fr Lindsay Lobo** moderated the session on 'Ignatian Poverty: Implications for the University Milieu.' **Fr Sathya Balan** responded to the paper on, 'Rules for thinking with the Church: A Creative Ignatian Revisit Today.' **Fr**

**Francis D'Souza** beautifully gathered the fruits at the end of the seminar. Satya Nilayam scholastics led the soul-stirring concluding prayer at the end of the programme.



The entire community prepared itself for the Holy Week Triduum with the Sacrament of Reconciliation on 13 April 2022. The staff and students of Satya Nilayam were out in different parishes of Chennai for their Holy Week ministry.

## ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL MILESTONES

Responding to the call of the fourth UAP, Satya Nilayam community had its Eco-Week Celebrations from 21 to 26 February. The whole week was filled with different programmes such as – the inauguration of the 'Grande Path' inspiring us to imbibe the spirit and legacy of Rutilio Grande, inspiring sessions on eco-awareness by **Fr Robin Seelan**, cleaning up the coconut grove by the entire community, the inauguration of the Inigo Garden with a stage made out of the debris



of the renovated buildings, community Mass with the theme, "Care for our Common Home", unveiling a beautiful portrait of Blessed Rutilio Grande drawn by **Sch. Abhinay** (AND), the inauguration of domestic waste segregation unit with 21 classified containers, the unveiling of a mural in Manresa Hall which was the artistic expression of the UAPs by **Sch. Santosh** (KAR) and a very well-prepared prayer service dedicated to the theme, "Social Justice – the Eco Way" at Meditation Garden. Kudos to Fr Robin Seelan SJ and the eco-team of Satya Nilayam for their meticulous planning and creative execution of all the programmes.





On 26 January, we celebrated the Republic Day at Satya Nilayam. **Sch. Savio Saldana** (BOM) gave us the Republic Day message which enkindled our duty to uphold constitutional values in today's context. Jesuit Migrants Service organized a football tournament in collaboration with Satya Nilayam community on 27 February. Around 150 migrant youth visited our campus. There was a talk on 'Ignatius and Youth'. **Fr Valerian Mendonca** coordinated a blood donation camp for our community at Dhyana Ashram on 18 March 2022. Many of our community members volunteered and donated blood for the poor cancer patients at the Cancer Institute, Adyar. We thank **Fr Boniface**, our Rector, for his continuous encouragement and support in all these events.



Karnataka Muslim Muttahida Tahreek (KMMT) honoured **Fr Francis D'Souza** with Tippu Sultan Award on 13 March for his contribution to peace, unity and national integrity. Satya Nilayam, the department of Philosophy, won the finals in the inter-departmental football match held in Loyola College, Chennai.

### INTELLECTUAL MILESTONES

Satya Nilayam Research Institute (SNRI) organized Chennai Catholic Philosophy Professors' Colloquium, on 20 March, in which nearly thirty-six priests from the city actively participated and exchanged ideas to transform the current scenario through their philosophical vocation.



SNRI conducted two National Seminars on 'Solidarity' and 'Well-being' on 8 and 9 April 2022 respectively. The seminars focused on the themes from multi-dimensional perspectives. Around fifty scholars from across the country actively participated in both seminars. Each seminar had five paper presentations by scholars across the country. **Sch. Gito George** (BOM) also presented a paper titled '*Poverty's Impact on Well-Being: Social Responsibilities and Challenges*'. We had scholarly interactions, exchange of ideas, and concrete

suggestions to implement the ideas. On 16 May 2022, **Ms Marie Stella** successfully defended her thesis "*Philosophical and Aesthetic Inquiry into the Musical Compositions (Selective) and the Natana Markam of Bharatanatyam*" at SNRI.



Kudos to **Fr Robin Seelan** for meticulously organizing all these events. The community congratulated **Fr Robin Seelan** on publishing his new book titled '*Venturing Together: The Role of Interreligious Dialogue Today*'. Dr Subhasis Chattopadhyay did a book review of the same book by Fr Robin Seelan, SJ and it was published in Indian Catholic Matters. **Fr Robin Seelan, SJ** gave three courses, namely, "Intra-Faith Dialogue" on 2 and 3 April to thirty participants of Sacred Heart Brothers in Irudayakulam, two workshops of Ignatian Leadership titled "Becoming" on 25 and 26 March to the young staff of colleges run by Jesuit Madurai Province in LTI, Madurai, and a five-day course for renewing religious life as part of ongoing formation titled 'Enspirited' from 7 to 11 March organized by Tamil Nadu Discalced Carmelites in Pudukkottai.

Congratulations to **Fr Valerian Mendonca** on the release of his two new edited books, "*Ancient, Medieval and Modern Philosophy*" and "*Contemporary philosophy*" which were published under JDV series. On March 29, **Fr Vinod Soreng** delivered a lecture on Methods of Inquiry in Philosophy for the students of PG department of International Relations at Loyola College Chennai. **Fr Jagadish** received his appointment from Fr POSA as an assistant professor of Sacred Heart College, Satya Nilayam.

### EXAMS AND DEPARTURES

The second-year scholastics had their final comprehensive exams on 15 and 16 March. Eleven of them passed with distinction. The community placed on record its gratitude to **Frs. Michael Alosanaya, SJ, Sathya Balan, SJ, Lindsay Lobo, SJ** and the second-year scholastics for their contributions and bade farewell to them in a programme. The second-year scholastics successfully completed their final semester exams on 23 March 2022 and left for their respective provinces by 28 March 2022. The first-year scholastics had their Second Semester exams from 19-26 April 2022 and left for their respective provinces by 28 April 2022.

*Fr G. Martin, SJ*



## INDIAN SOCIAL INSTITUTE, DELHI

### 'Shanti Sadbhavna Manch' National Sharing and Learning Workshop



The Indian Social Institute organized a 'National Sharing and Learning Workshop' for 36 peace trainers of "Shanti Sadbhavna Manch" from seven states from 15 to 16 February, 2022. It was an occasion for the state peace coordinators and zonal peace trainers from seven states to share their peace building efforts and to learn from each other's experiences. Most of the sessions were spent on presentations from each state on peace building activities which were conducted during



last six months and the impact of the programs. There were also sessions on 'Fundamental Duties' mentioned in the Constitution, and socialization process based on social culture. The peace trainers expressed the challenges they faced during last two years due to COVID-19 pandemic.

### Webinar on "Economic Inequality: Impact on Social Justice"

On the occasion of the World Day of Social Justice, Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society (CISRS) and Indian Social Institute, New Delhi, organized a webinar on "Economic Inequality: Impact on Social Justice" on 19 February, 2022. The programme began with a welcome address by Rev. Dr Y.T. Vinayraj, Director of CISRS. The speaker on the occasion was Mr Amitabh Behar, Chief Executive Officer of Oxfam India. The webinar was moderated by Fr Denzil Fernandes, SJ, Executive Director of ISI, Delhi. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Rev. Arvind Peter, Program Coordinator, CISRS.

### Celebration of International Women's Day

The International Women's Day was celebrated in the Institute on 8 March 2022 with great enthusiasm. The theme of the programme was "Gender Equality today for a Sustainable Tomorrow". The programme started with Ms Satya Srinivasan extending a warm welcome to the gathering. In his inaugural address,



the Executive Director of the Institute, Fr Denzil Fernandes,

highlighted the contribution of women to the Institute and to society at large. After the lighting of lamp ceremony, Fr Thomas Perumalil, SJ shared on the significance of the day and informed the gathering about the history behind the celebrating the International Women's Day.



Some women staff and Jesuits also shared their views on this special occasion.

### Course on "Critical Thinking and Social Analysis on Contemporary India"

Indian Social Institute organized a ten-day course on "Critical Thinking and Social Analysis on Contemporary India" for Jesuit scholastics and religious sisters from 20 to 30 April 2022. There were twenty-one participants, including fourteen scholastics from seven Jesuit provinces and seven Sisters from two congregations, who actively participated in the course.



The course was inaugurated by Fr Jerome Stanislaus D'Souza, SJ, the President of JCSA, on 20 April, 2022. In his inaugural address, he highlighted the need to critically analyze the socio-economic and political reality in the country. Everyday different modules were presented by different resource persons followed by discussion and sharing. During the valedictory session at the end of the course, Fr Arjen Tete, SJ highlighted the importance of critical thinking during formation and in ministries. All the participants appreciated every module of the course and expressed their gratitude to the efforts of the course coordinators, Fr Lancy Lobo, SJ and Fr Alwyn D'Souza, SJ.

### Retirement of Dr Archana Sinha

Indian Social Institute organized a farewell programme for Dr Archana Sinha on the occasion of her retirement from service on 2 May 2022. She served the Institute for 29 years in various capacities in the





Research Department. During her nearly three decade-long service in the Institute, she published nearly 20 books and numerous articles in national and international journals besides which she organised several seminars, colloquiums, courses, workshops and training programmes in the Institute. During the farewell programme, the Staff Forum felicitated her and a number of staff colleagues appreciated her contribution to the academic endeavours of the Institute. Earlier on the same day, the Staff Forum also organized a farewell programme for Fr Shiju Mathew, SJ, who worked in the Institute as Chief Finance Officer and Administrator for the last six years. The ISI staff felicitated him and wished him all the best for his new assignment at Indian Social Institute, Bengaluru. During the programme, the Staff Forum accorded a warm welcome to Fr Ronald Saldanha, SJ, who took charge as the new Administrator and Chief Finance Officer of Indian Social Institute.



### Launch of 'CHRL Associates'

On 28 May the Jesuit inspired law firm, 'CHRL Associates' was inaugurated in the premises of Indian Social Institute. The programme began with a prayer. Advocate James welcomed the gathering. In his address, Fr Ravi Sagar, SJ outlined the goals and objectives of this new initiative at litigation at an affordable cost. The Chief Guest for the



programme was Ms Nancy Barlow, a member of the Delhi Minorities Commission. Mr Jose Kavi, executive editor of Matters India was a special guest. After the lighting of the traditional lamp, Fr Denzil Fernandes, SJ, officially declared the launching of the CHRL Associates. The programme included testimonies of those who were provided legal assistance by CHRL. The entire programme was moderated by Sr Rani. About thirty advocates and well-wishers of CHRL were present on the occasion.

### Book Release of "If Not Now, When?"

Indian Social Institute published a book "If Not Now, When? *Disquieting Feminist Questions*" edited by Astrid Lobo Gajiwala, Kochurani Abraham and Prashant Olalekar, SJ, which was released on 26 April on the occasion of the 85<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Fr Stan Swamy in Bagaicha, Ranchi. The book consists of 25 articles, testimonies and interviews of women inspired by the life and work of Fr Stan Swamy. Sr Ruby Mary introduced the book before it was released by Archbishop Felix Toppo SJ. The global virtual launch of the book took place on 7 May. The programme included the video message of Fr Arturo Sosa, the Superior General of the Society of Jesus. The book was unveiled by Ms Anvit Lakra, a young tribal girl. Professor Neena Joseph introduced the book and prominent social

activists, Ms Teesta Setalvad and Lara Jesani spoke about the contribution of women in their struggles for justice. The programme concluded with a video song 'I Rise' specially composed by Sch. Ambrose D'Souza, SJ for the occasion. The entire virtual programme was moderated by Fr Cedric Prakash SJ.



### Final Vows of Fr Shiju Mathew SJ

The final vows ceremony of Fr Shiju Mathew, SJ was held on 22 April, 2022, with a Eucharistic celebration in the evening at 6.00 p.m. followed by dinner. Fr Jerome Stanislaus D'Souza, SJ, President of JCSA, presided over the Holy Eucharist and received the vows. At the end of the Eucharistic celebration, Fr Shiju Mathew, SJ, expressed his profound gratitude to all Jesuits, family members and friends who guided him throughout his Jesuit life. About fifty-five people including Jesuits from different communities in Delhi as well as scholastics and sisters attending a course in the Institute participated in the programme. Later, a special lunch for the staff was hosted by the Institute on 25 April to celebrate the occasion.

### Farewell and Welcome in ISI Jesuit Community

The Jesuit community of Indian Social Institute bade farewell to three members, namely Fr Shiju Mathew, SJ, the Minister of ISI Jesuit community, Fr Siji Chacko, the Director of the Conference Development Office (CDO) and Migrant Assistance and Information



Network (MAIN) and Fr Shin Kallungal, the Assistant Director of MAIN. The ISI Jesuit Community welcomes five new members, namely Fr Sebastia L. Raj, SJ, Conference Development Director, Fr Martin



Puthussery, SJ, Director of MAIN, Fr Ronald Saldanha, SJ, the Minister of ISI, Fr Bipin Lugun, SJ, the Conference Communication Coordinator and Fr Stanislaus Tirkey, SJ, the Secretary of Social Justice

and Ecology Secretariat (SJES) of South Asia.

*Fr Tom Perumalil, S.J.*

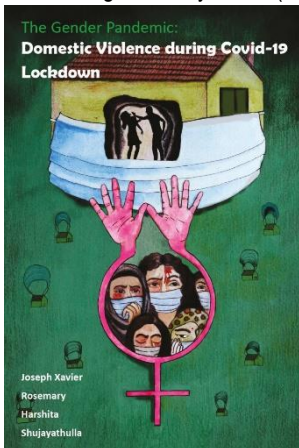


## INDIAN SOCIAL INSTITUTE, BENGALURU (ISIB)

CMR University, Bengaluru conferred PhD to Fr Martin Puthuserry on his successful defence of these 'Exclusion and vulnerabilities of inbound distress migrant workers in Kerala', on April 6, 2022. After seven years of selfless service at ISIB Fr Martin has moved to ISI Delhi as Director of MAIN. We commend him for his generous service and love for the migrants. On June 4, Fr Dr Selvin Raj, Andhra Jesuit Province, joined the institute as head of Labour Migration Unit with much enthusiasm and zeal. The institute was happy to welcome, Fr Shiju Mathew to the institute as the Administrator, after having served for 6 years as the Administrator and Treasurer at ISI Delhi. The institute thanks Fr Francis Balaraj for his selfless service as the Administrator for a year. He heads the Social Inclusion and Democracy unit with full gusto.

As part of the Ignatian year, the institute has been organising talks on specific Ignatian themes for Jesuits and staff every month. So far about 6 talks were organised. One such talk was given by Fr Frederick D'Silva, on 'Jesuits and Collaboration'.

Fr Joseph Xavier, the Director, completed project assessment study for Udayani, a Jesuit Social Centre, Kolkata, sponsored by the Basque government. He addressed over 1,000 students and staff on the theme, 'Forming Men and Women for and with others' through online sessions, organised by BJES (Bangalore Jesuit Educational Society).



Now he is engaged in a study on '60 years of IGSSS in building the resilience of the marginalised community and Reimagining its future'. He anchored a three-day workshop organised by MAIN to take forward the JCSA response to the migrants, in March 2022. The institute published a research on "The Gender Pandemic: Domestic Violence during Covid-19 pandemic". Fr Joe continued his efforts to take forward the legacy of Fr Stan Swamy.

The Social Inclusion and Democracy unit on 19 and 20 March organised a two-day workshop to conclude Batch I (2017-2022) – Capacity Building Training of Youth. About 100 youth and heads of 32



NGOs participated. They shared their successes, learnings and stories that transformed them to contribute to their communities. The unit capacitated about 560 youth, from 60 NGOs. Batch II Capacity Building training of youth is planned for the next 2 years, from 2022-2024. On 6 April 2022, one-day consultation with Heads of new partner NGOs at South India level was organised. The unit also organised a workshop on Socio cultural Analysis to Jesuit scholastics and religious from 20 to 30 April, 2022. About 34 participants demonstrated a high level of motivation and commitment to work towards social justice, peace and reconciliation for the marginalised communities. Besides,

the unit also organised online sessions in local languages on SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act, Mental Health and International Women's Day. Fr Francis Balaraj conducted two-day workshop on 2 and 3 May to the animators of the Shimoga Multipurpose Social Service Society, Shimoga Diocese, Karnataka on 'Leadership and Social Analysis'.



The Labour Migration unit on 9 and 10 April, organised a two-day workshop for migrant young leaders in collaboration with NGO partners - JMS (Chennai), JMMEx (Tiruvannamalai), SWADES (Goa), Kiran Niketan Social Centre (Goa), Sisters of the Good Shepherd (Goa), Canossa Convent (Goa), Ashirvad (Bengaluru), and Jeevika



(Kerala). About seventy migrant youth shared about their lives, dreams and struggles. A few individuals gave testimonies on how they had been accompanied and supported, especially during Covid-19 crisis. On 26 and 27 April, the partners came together to reflect on the impact of the project, 'Reducing the Vulnerabilities of the Migrants', supported by Caritas Germany. Through this project, the institute, along with their partners were able to reach out to about 4,200 migrants. Medical camp, medical assistance, educational support, motivational sessions, leadership training and emergency support were the major components.



The institute organised Financial Management (Basic & Advanced) for the Charitable Trusts in India from 11 to 22 May, 2022. Fr Alex G, Jamshedpur Jesuit Province, trained about fifty-five participants from different parts of India by sharing his knowledge on Financial, Legal, Structural, and Administrative Matters with changes in legal provisions and compliances.



*Fr Francis Balaraj, SJ*



## ISLAMIC STUDIES ASSOCIATION

On 6 March, Anil Almeida SJ and Joseph Victor Edwin, SJ had an engaging meeting with Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli, the Apostolic Nuncio to India, at his residence. They had a focused conversation on interfaith relations in India. While Edwin apprised the Nuncio of Christian-Muslim relations in India, its challenges and new openings, Anil presented his views on Christian-Hindu relations.



On 20 March 2022, Islamic Studies Association organized a half-day training programme in Human Rights and the Right to Information Act. It was meant for students of law who hailed from socially marginalised families. At the end of the programme, text books were provided to the participants.



On 24 March, 2022, Islamic Studies Association organized the 5<sup>th</sup> Victor Courtois Memorial Lecture at Arul Anandar College, Karumathur, Madurai. Ms Naaz Khair, a scholar and activist in the Pasmada Muslim movement, presented the lecture, on "Christian-Muslim Relations: Pasmada Dimension". The lecture was well received.



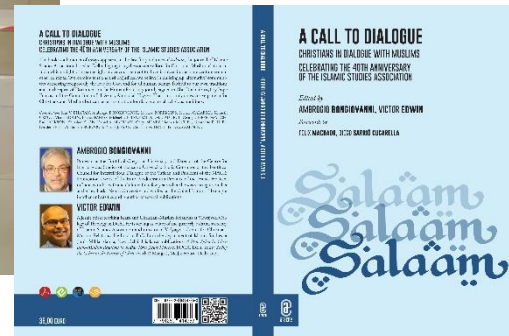
On 29 March 2022, Islamic Studies Association in collaboration with Iran Culture House, New Delhi, and Who is Hussain, Bangalore, organized an online talk on "Imam Hussain and the Struggle for Justice" by author Dr Chris Hewer (UK). Prof. Fr Christopher Clohessy, of the Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome and Prof. Syed Mahdi Alizadeh Musavi of the University of Religion, Qom, Iran, made some brilliant responses. The webinar was a spiritual and intellectual treat for those who attended.



On 28 April 2022, the Indian Theological Association during their Annual conference and General body meeting elected A. Alangaram, SJ as President, Sr Evelyn as Vice-president and Joseph Victor Edwin, SJ as Secretary of the Association.

On 23 February 2022, a book *A Call to Dialogue: Christians in Dialogue with Muslims*, edited by Professor Ambrogio Bongiovanni (Gregorian University, Rome) and Joseph Victor Edwin, SJ (Vidyajyoti College of Theology, Delhi) was released at Gregorian University, Rome. The book is a bouquet of essays appeared in the last forty volumes of *Salaam*, the journal of Islamic Studies Association based in Delhi, highlighting the concrete efforts for Christian-Muslim relations in India which might bring some light and encouragement to those involved in the same venture even in other contexts.

Overcoming tensions and prejudices, the editors believe in building up 'alternative' communities witnessing reciprocally the love for God and for all human beings, faithful to our own traditions and in the spirit of Document on the Human Fraternity jointly signed in Abu Dhabi (2019) by Pope Francis and the Grand Imam of al-Azhar, Ahmad al-Tayyeb. That is not only an exclusive pattern for Christians and Muslims but can be an inspiration for dialogue for all people. The contributors are: V. BHAJJAN, Ambrogio BONGIOVANNI, Maurice BORRMANS, Michael CALABRIA, Kenneth CRAGG, Victor EDWIN, Terence FARIAS, Michael L. FITZGERALD, J.M. GAUDEUL, George GISPert-SAUCh, Paul JACKSON, Khurshid KHAN, Daniel A. MADIGAN, Chrys MCVEY, Thomas MICHEL, Gerardette PHILIPS, Desiderio PINTO, Herman ROBORGH, Patrick J. RYAN, Christian W. TROLL, and Francesco ZANNINI.



*In Victor Edwin, SJ*