

St.Xavier's Institute of Education

Rural Camp 2020

Academic Year 2019-20

“Be the change that you wish to see in the world” – Mahatma Gandhi

Centre – Gnanmata Sadan, Talasari

Dates- 6th January 2020 – 10th January 2020

Rural camp 2020 was one of the most memorable and enriching experience we will ever have to cherish in our lives. Each of us was delighted with this camp, the hospitality and most importantly the generosity that was showed to us by the Jesuit priests and the little flowers of every school overwhelmed us in multiple ways. It is said that teachers mould the lives of students but we future teachers were molded during the camp. Their vision, their perspective of looking at things, the optimism and their warm nature was something we carried back with us and will be cherished throughout.

Our first day when we reached the centre, we were welcomed and oriented by Fr. Yohan Alphonso, Director of the centre who told us about the schools that the priests run in the peripheral area of Talasari which accounted to 15 educational institutions. Before we could scribble things out our plan for the entire week's camp was chalked out Fr. Yohan with number of students going to Talasari, Varkhanda, Zari and interior schools respectively so that we get optimum experience of everything. We also visited the leprosy centre where we conducted a small program for the leprosy patients and paid visit to the hospital run the Canossian sisters and the residential convent. Before we retired for the day we had a feedback session of the activities we conducted and our experience.

From second day to the last day of the camp each one us were divided in different schools where we taught English, Math, Science; clarified the doubts the students had with regards to their studies, conducted activities like poster making, action songs, role plays which stressed on effective growth and development of all round personality of the students. We also made some teaching – learning resources so that the students could a clear picture of what they are being taught. We conducted and elaborate social analysis of the students' social and cultural background so as to understand the rural set up, the challenges faced by then and how things work there. The most important thing was that we learnt a lot from those students. We awestruck with the value the students had for education their disciplined behavior. We also observed some practices like removing footwear outside the class which showed their belief of school a temple of knowledge. Shy and naïve in nature the student's interacted with respect and care with us. They taught us their traditional tarpa dance and warli paintings. Some of us also conducted a workshop on Faith Formation for the students where we told stories on catechism taught some prayerful action songs and enlightened them on the faith. we also visited the nearby dam. On the second last day we had

a boarder's night where we future teachers had our dinner with the boarders of the school along with the priests and our staff-in-charge. That was one of most remembered time of the camp where we along with boards spent quality time singing, dancing and eating together.

The rural camp that we thought of being a difficult task was eased that we imprinted within us for the rest of our lives. With a heavy heart we bid farewell to the place and especially the students who had become family then. The fact that we won't be here the next morning saddened us within. But we surely learnt a lot of things especially to be grateful to God for everything we have, being patient, being optimistic in life and being content with what we have and always looking forward to enlighten and to be enlightened by widening our horizons.

For us this was the best time for new beginning...

Report Compiled by

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