

Onam Celebration Report
(Held 8th of September, 2022)

SXIE

Celebrations for the festival of harvest, Onam, was an auspicious one for the college of St Xavier's Institute of Education on September 8th, 2022. This program was attended by a total of 48 students.

Our co-ordinator for the day and the days leading up to it, Dr Vini Sebastian, guided us with everything. In the days leading up to the program, we students rehearsed very well. Much thanks go to our professors who through co-ordination made this program a great success.

The program began at 8:45am with a warm welcome by our comperes for the day - Aldrina Pereira and Sally Rodrigues. The Astha House captain Joanita Gonsalves welcomed everyone into the Multipurpose Hall with *Chandan tika*, a custom of Onam. Our principal in charge Dr Geeta Shetty gave a warm welcoming speech on the celebration of Onam and we began the program by lighting of the lamp by all the committee members present, including Father Blaise D'Souza.

As cultural inclusivity ensures cultural participation, access, and ability to express and interpret culture, so was this important day of Onam celebration in St. Xavier's Institute of Education.

The entire class was participative in the celebration. It was a nice blend of Malayalam aesthetics. The girls wore the traditional Malayalam saree – white and gold, while the boys wore a white “*lungi*”.

Onam Skit

The first performance of the day was the Onam skit by several of the class members. It represented the origins of Onam and why it is celebrated today. Very informative and enriching it was, as it enhanced the importance of Onam.

Onam Dance

The skit was followed by a dance by almost all the students of SXIE including three of our professors – Ms. Priti Sivaramakrishnan, Dr Shadab Paloji and Dr Vini Sebastian. The dance was a traditional Onam dance called ‘Thirvathirakali’ and was beautifully showcased with much enthusiasm.

The 'Thirvathirakali' was followed by a Keralite song sung by various students, not to mention two of our dear professors – Dr Bijoy Thomas and Dr Vini Sebastian. The song was harmonious and in keeping in touch with the cultural diversity theme of the day.

Fr. Blaise's speech

Reverend Fr Blaise gave an enlightening speech about the beauty of various myths and the essence behind the myth we celebrate on Onam. He went beyond the ritualistic level to highlight the rich spiritual values inherent within the festival. He placed special emphasis on the fact that despite all the myths we celebrate today, the common factor that ties all of them together is these values of togetherness, harmony and love they all celebrate.

Prayer

This was followed by prayers in two languages, namely English and Malayalam, highlighting the aspect of the rich cultural diversity we are a part of.

Informative video on Onam and quiz

A brilliant PPT was prepared showcasing the celebration of Onam around the world. This was followed by a pop quiz on the festival and origins of Onam,

Solo dance

Fatima Hasan, a confident and talented student performed a dance jubilantly.

Vote of thanks

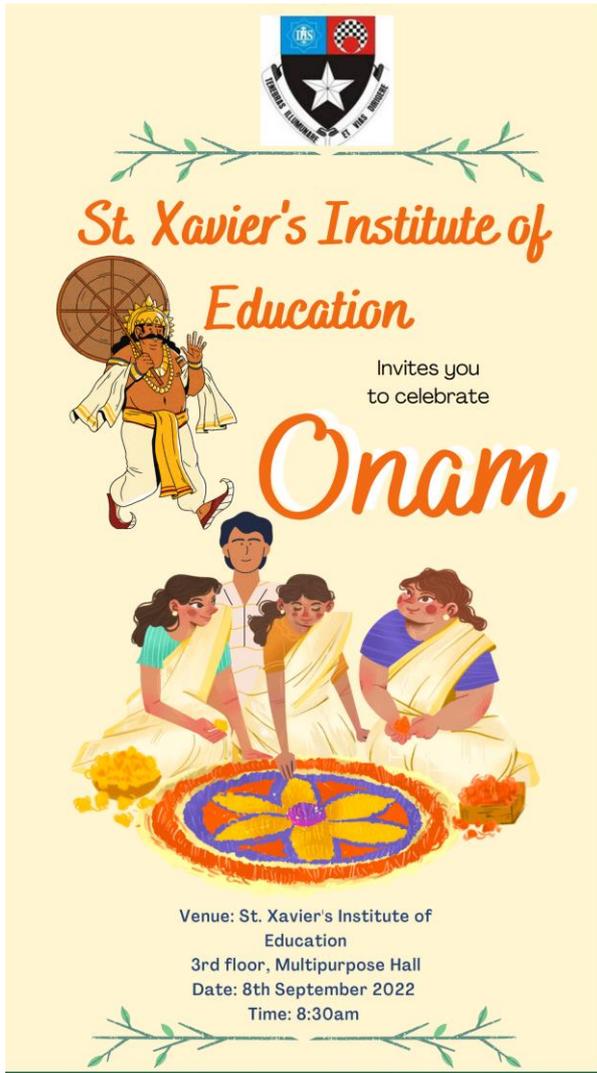
A vote of thanks to all those who performed was given by Dominica Barretto, the class representative.

This was followed a group photo session.

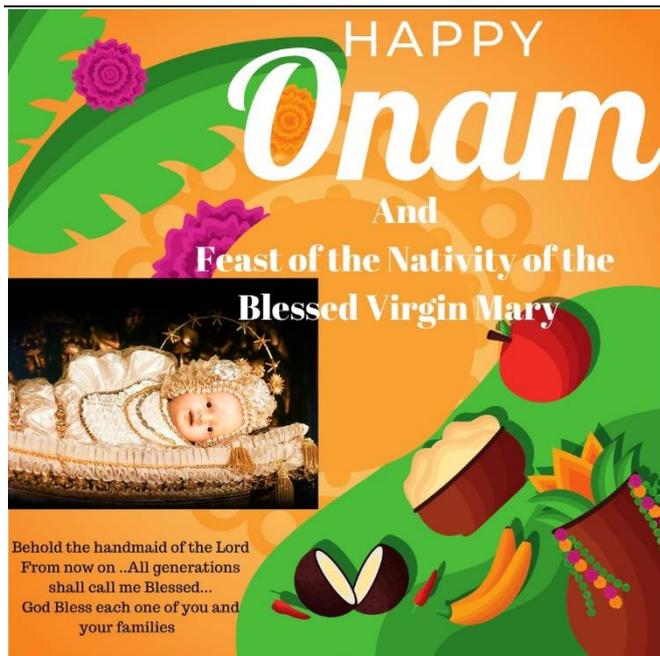
We ended the program with the national anthem, and distribution of Onam sweets like banana chips and cakes.

This auspicious day of Onam celebration highlighted the cultural diversity, and was for *inclusion and togetherness*.

MENTORS FOR THE PROGRAM - Dr Bijoy Thomas and Dr Vini Sebastian



~ INVITATION and Feast Card

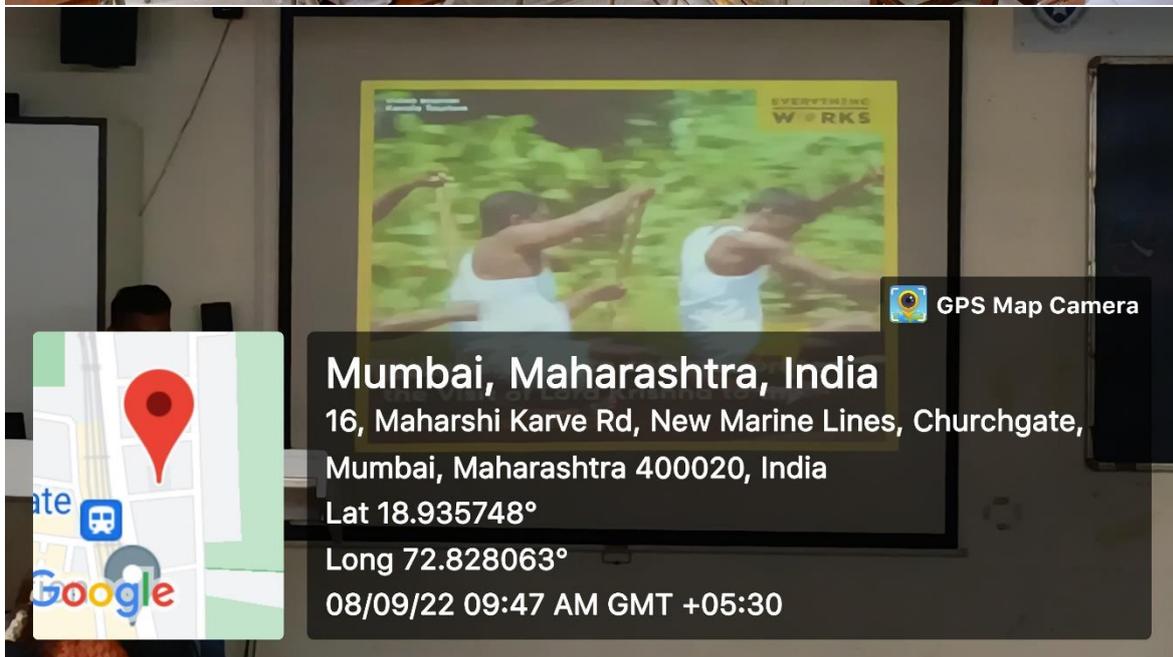


Video

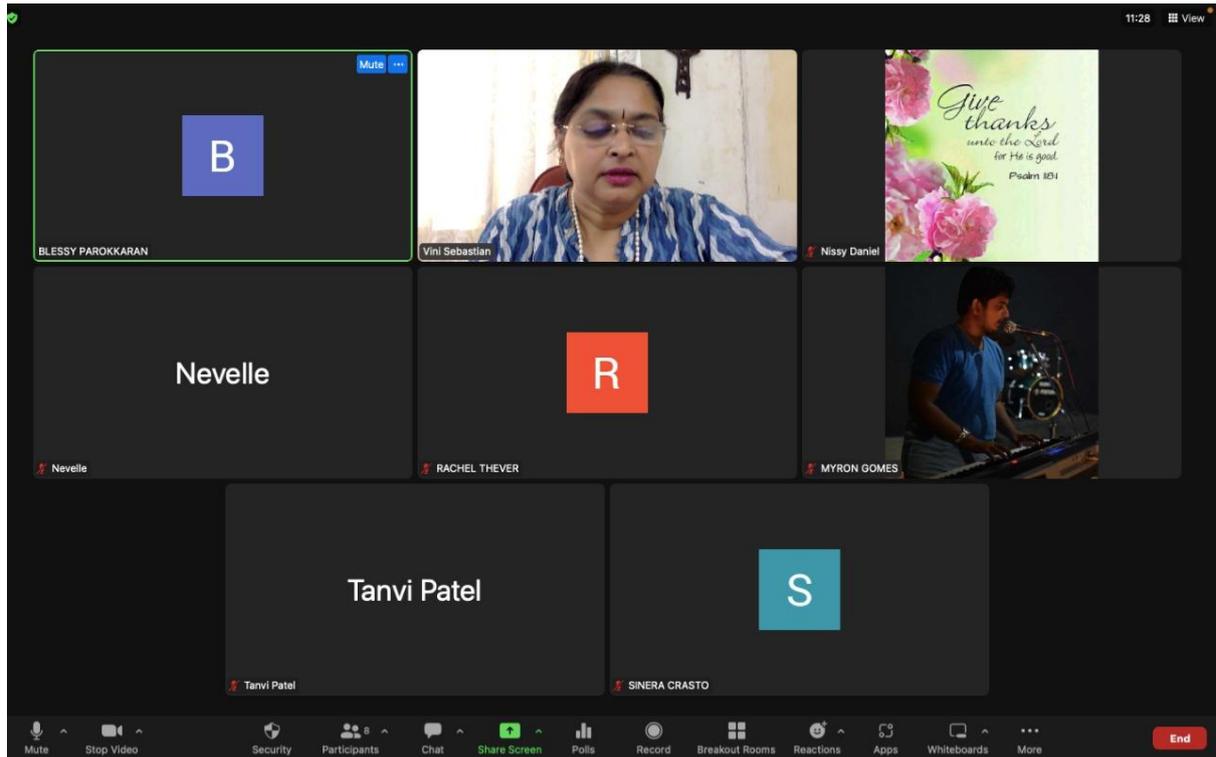
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Pictures:



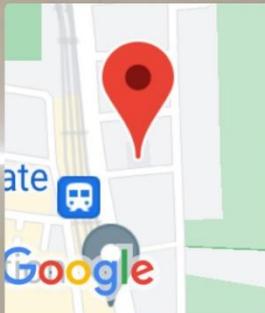
VIDEO PRESENTATION ABOUT ONAM



A Pre-Onam Meeting conducted online



GPS Map Camera



Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

40 A, Vitthaladas Thackersey Marg, opp. State Bank of India, New Marine Lines, Marine Lines, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400020, India

Lat 18.935766°

Long 72.828059°

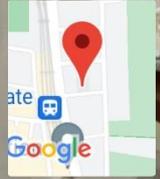
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LIGHTING OF THE LAMP

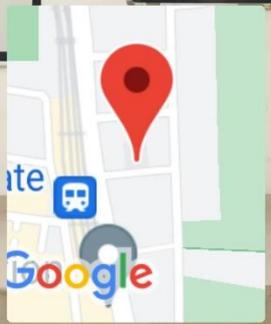


SKIT PERFORMANCE

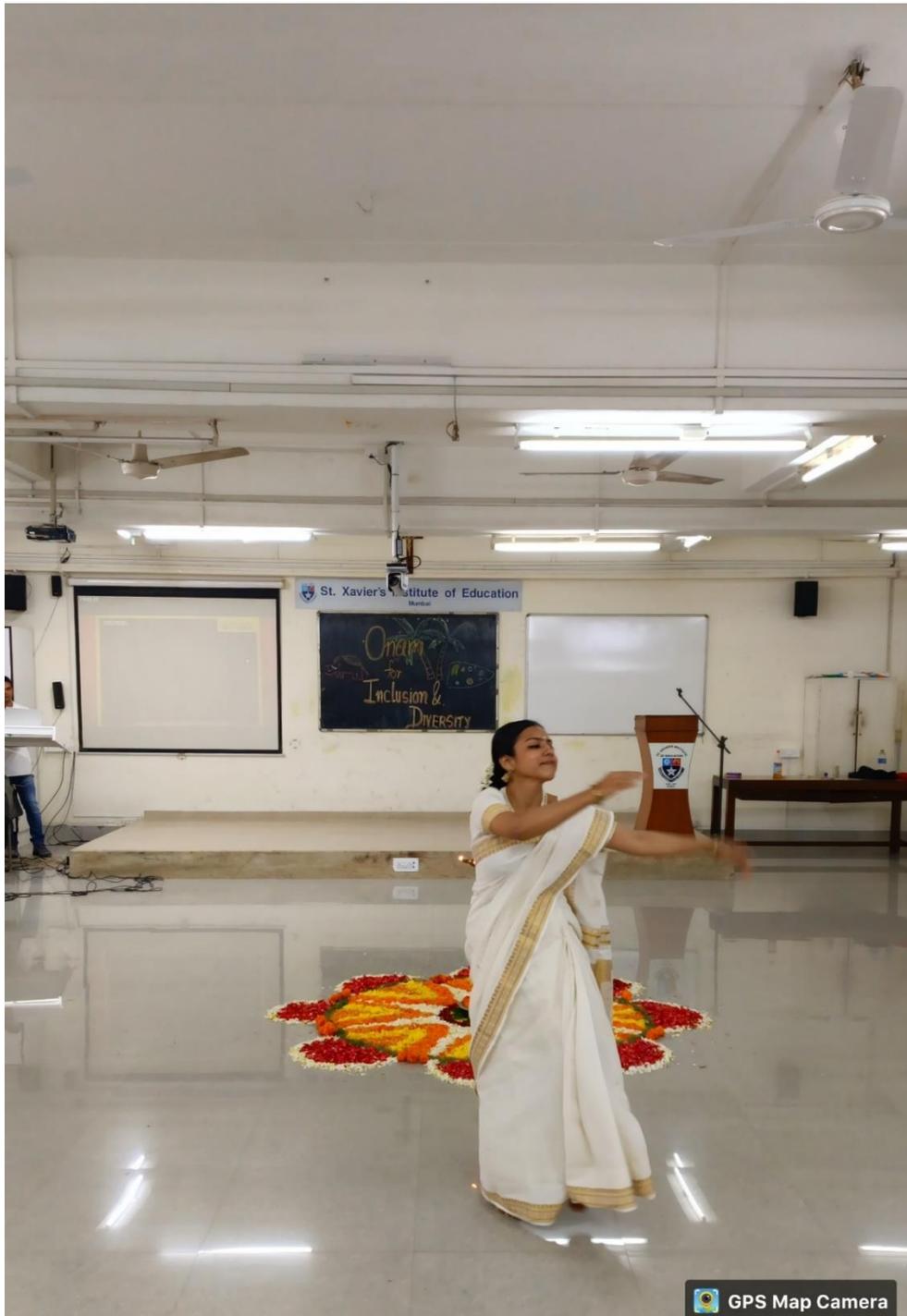


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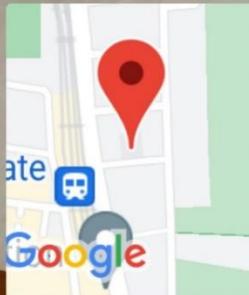
PRAYER



Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
16, Maharshi Karve Rd, New Marine Lines, Churchgate, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400020, India
Lat 18.935727°
Long 72.828084°
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GPS Map Camera



Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

40 A, Vitthaladas Thackersey Marg, opp. State Bank of India, New Marine Lines, Marine Lines, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400020, India

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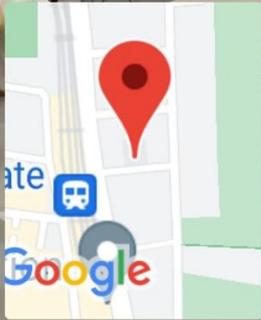
SOLO DANCE by Fatima Hassan



SINGING GROUP



ONAM DANCE - Thirvathirakali



Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

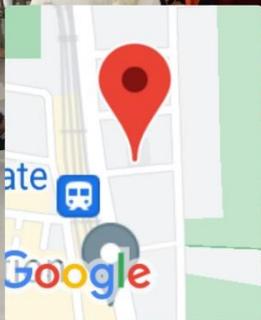
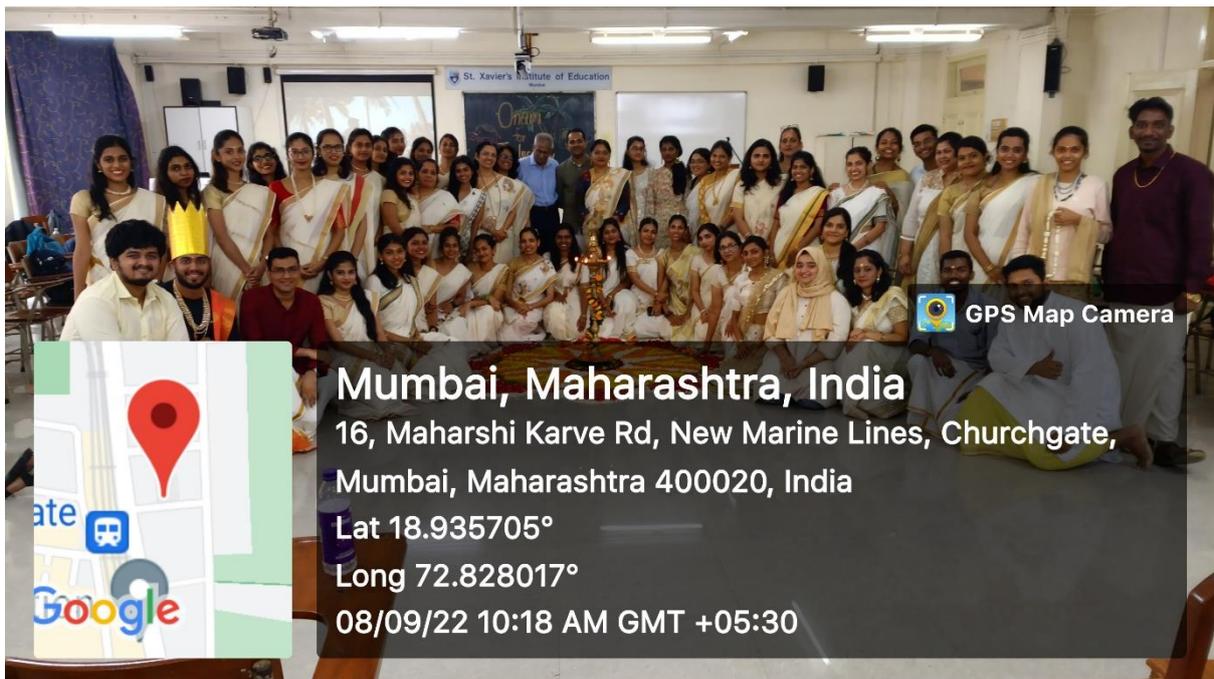
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Mumbai, Maharashtra 400020, India

Lat 18.935733°

Long 72.828059°

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FR. Blaise's speech.



Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

16, Maharshi Karve Rd, New Marine Lines, Churchgate,
Mumbai, Maharashtra 400020, India

Lat 18.935705°

Long 72.828017°

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GROUP PHOTO SESSION