

ANNUAL REPORT-2019



**International Movement of Catholic Students-Asia Pacific
Pax-Romana**



International Movement of Catholic Students-Asia Pacific

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IMCS Asia Pacific Coordinator's Message

Throughout the ages, the joy of youth and young people has been declared worldwide. Changes are visible when the wisdom and advice of the elders combine with the strength, enthusiasm, and boldness of the youth. Only the young can take the risk to make the impossible possible. Nothing is impossible for young people. Only they can dare to break the traditional customs. Only the youths are eligible for any mission anywhere be it on land, sea, and space. It is us, the youth who should take responsibility for the leadership of the future. This inspires us to prepare ourselves for tomorrow. Pope Francis said, **"Young People Are Not Just the Future of the Church, But the Present."** We should not be afraid to carry out any action. As the Holy Father says in Holy Scripture, **"Don't fear, because I am with you; don't be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will surely help you; I will hold you with my righteous strong hand" (Isaiah 41:10).** From our scopes, we need to work for the future generation.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres called Coronavirus the **'most horrific crisis'** since World War II. He further said, **'It is only through solidarity that strong and much more effective action can be taken. Everyone has to unite to forget the political game. We need to understand that humankind is under threat now.'** Right now, we are going through a crisis. We all need to be more aware. Our humanity should extend its hand with the help of people. We being a member of the IMCS family should be ready to extend our hands of solidarity. It is only through mutual coordination that we can build up a better world for the future.

We, as humans, are making the world unbearable day by day as we are destroying the earth and mother nature. Indigenous people used to say that the day when **the last tree of the forest will be cut down, the day the last river will dry up, the people will learn that man cannot survive by eating gold and silver and only money does not save lives.** Considering and respecting **"Indigenous Knowledge"** we need to work for the survival of nature.

We now need a generation of pure-hearted youth who will work and contribute to society, the country and the world. A better world will be made where there would be no greed, no narrow and dirty thoughts, no scope for corruption, no lust and no evil thoughts. Let us create a bridge amongst us. Let us work to build a society, country, and world in which a child can lead his dignified life with insurance of availing all the civil rights.

Now is the time to dream and make dreams a reality. Let us work together to develop a beautiful world. May we come forward with our dreams, vitality, youth, enthusiasm, generosity, and confidence.

So, at this point, Jesus is telling us, **"Young man, I say to you, get up (Luke 7:14)."** Come on, let us wake up and wake up young people for the betterment of this world. May Jesus be with us all. May the almighty God bless us all.

Yours in Christ's Solidarity,



William Nokrek,
Asia Pacific Coordinator
IMCS Asia Pacific



Message from Regional Chaplain

Many years ago when I was still a student, during the PAPA (Pan Asia Pacific Assembly) I attended, there was a small group discussion to share about “who are the poor?” in your sub region. As “Preferential Option for the Poor” is always our movement’s vision and mission, I think it is needed to review from time to time who should we concern and connect with. I still remembered I shocked the regional coordinator at that time as I shared something about university students are actually the poor in my region, as we need to engage in part time jobs to pay the high school fee, spend a lot of time to engage in different activities or opportunities in order to increase the possibility to find a better job in future, under the influence of globalization, we are not so privileged to access the same amount of resources as the university student than our previous generations etc... I guess why this sharing stunned our friends is because whenever we say about option for the poor, we always put the lens on the others instead of imaging that we might be one of them.

Time flies and situation of university students is more challenging than the time when I was young. Situation in my home city, Hong Kong, is especially tough. After the prolonged protest of the anti-extradition bill since last June 2019, Hong Kong is suffering from COVID-19 outbreak like all around the world. The existing structure and the familiar order is being questioned, mistrust among people and distrust towards the government is intensified by the social media. Many people actually share the same thought, COVID-19 didn't only impact Hong Kong like the days of SARS, it becomes a worldwide problem. It is really a suitable moment for us

to review our existing life style, should we spend more effort in developing the local economy? Should we have less unnecessary travel? Should we live slowly and live in an environmentally friendly way? Should we rethink about the impact of consumerism and globalization?

In this moment of drastic change, I always keep in mind, who are the poor ? Except for those economically poor, are there any mental poor or even spiritual poor around us ? I am sure if we cannot maintain a certain level of internal calmness, it is very difficult for us to face the adversity situation. So, are we spiritually rich enough to face all the challenges ? Are we building an international solidarity of human dignity ? Or are we spreading hatred and selfishness and further marginalized those who are already suffered due to our fear and ignorance ? As an ecumenical movement, we should be the pioneer to promote spiritual health among our community. In this COVID-19 pandemic moment, it is really a good moment for us to rethink how could we build the Kingdom of God on earth with love and humanities, and how could we learn to understand the reality with a different perspective.

Law Lap Man (TorToise / Siu Law)
Regional Chaplain
IMCS Asia Pacific

IMCS Asia Pacific Board of Directors

The IMCS Asia Pacific Board of Directors are mainly assisting the management of the legalities of the organization. Starting from year 2018, 2 former members of IMCS Asia Pacific, Fr. Fung Jee Vui as Member and Boyette Nuez Jurcales Jr. as Financial Officer, joined the board of directors. Traditionally, these two positions are held by 2 serving coordinators.



Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle
President
Philippines



Bishop Leopoldo C. Jaucian
Vice President
Philippines



Fr. Fung Jee Vui, SJ
Director
Malaysia



Virginia Francisco
Secretary
Philippines



Boyette Nuez Jurcales Jr.
Financial Officer
Philippines

IMCS Asia Pacific Coordination Team and Chaplaincy Team

IMCS Asia Pacific chaplaincy team is expected to assist the elected regional coordinators with their expertise and spiritual accompaniment during the mandate. As per tradition, different IMCS regional coordination have followed the single chaplaincy format. However, in Asia Pacific region, to remain true to the Identity of IMCS being a lay movement, IMCS Asia Pacific has followed the chaplaincy team format which comprises one lay female chaplain, one male chaplain together, with one religious chaplain (male or female) since 2003. Chaplains are appointed for a period of 3 years.



William Nokrek
Coordinator
Bangladesh/South Asia



Law Lap Man
Lay Female Chaplain
Hong Kong / East Asia



Sr. Jantana Wongsankakorn, OSU
Religious Chaplain
Thailand / South East Asia



Mr. John Shanth Kumar Joseph
Lay Male Chaplain
India/South Asia

IMCS ASIA PACIFIC CATHOLIC STUDENTS MOVEMENTS INFORMATION

A. National Movement List

No.	National Movement	Abbreviation	Established Year	Sub-region
1	All India Catholic University Federation	AICUF	1924	South Asia
2	Bangladesh Catholic Students' Movement	BCSM	1991	South Asia
3	Catholic Students Network of Thailand	CSNT	1956	Southeast Asia
4	Hong Kong Federation of Catholic Students	HKFCS	1961	East Asia
5	International Movements of Catholic Students of Nepal	IMCS- Nepal	2016(ReEstd.)	South Asia
6	Union of Catholic University Students of the Republic of Indonesia	PMKRI	1947	Southeast Asia
7	Seoul Federation of Catholic Students (Korea)	SFCS	1956	East Asia
8	Sri Lanka University Catholic Students' Movement	SLUCSM	1928	South Asia
9	University Catholic Chinese Students Association (Taiwan)	UCCSA	1951	East Asia
10	Australian Catholic Students Association	ACSA	1931	Pacific

B. Other student Groups' Information

• Light of Dawn - China

Language and political issues have caused difficulties in communication. Currently they try to participate in IMCS programs as observers.

• Vietnam

University student groups lead by Jesuits have been participating in IMCS programs as observers. Due to political issues, it has become a challenge to establish an official movement.

• Malaysia

Previous students' movement which was a full member of IMCS was dissolved by Malaysian Bishops conference. After years of lobbying, Bishop's conference has given the permission to Malaysian Campus Ministers Association to start the communication with IMCS starting from 2017. Currently Campus Ministers and students are participating in IMCS programs as observers.

• Pakistan

Previously Pakistan has had a full member movement of IMCS. Even though they didn't disaffiliate from the international movement, group ceased to exist due to local dynamics. Currently IMCS is in a collaboration with Lahore based "Theological Institute for Laity" (TIL) for reestablishing a Catholic tertiary student' organization. They established Christian Students Network Pakistan.

National Movement Membership Data

AICUF - ALL INDIA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY FEDERATION

Number of members: 15,000

Units: 220

Department: National Team

Thematic Commissions:

Dalit Commission

Women commission

Refugee Commission

Adivasi Commission



BCSM - BANGLADESH CATHOLIC STUDENTS' MOVEMENT

Number of members: 1550

Units: 25

Department: National Team

Thematic Commissions:

Media Commission

Advocacy Commission

Indigenous Commission



CSNT - CATHOLIC STUDENTS NETWORK OF THAILAND

Number of members: 150

Units: 3

Department: National Team



HKFCS - HONG KONG FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC STUDENTS

Number of members: 200

Units: 11

Department:

- Pastoral Care Committee
- Financial Committee
- Current Affairs Committee
- International Affairs Committee
- Catholic Post-Secondary Editorial Board
- Information Management Committee
- Internal Affairs Group
- Constitution Committee



IMCS NEPAL - INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT OF CATHOLIC STUDENTS OF NEPAL

Number of members: 30

Units: 1

Department: National Team

PMKRI - UNION OF CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY STUDENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

Number of members: 2,000

Units: 70

Department: National Boards

Presidiums,
International Boards,
Organizational Development
Education and regeneration,
Social issue movement,
University relations,
Relations between Catholic communities
Branches Boards



Thematic Commissions:

Research Commission
Women Empowerment Commission
Law and Human Rights Commission
Press and Media Commission
Creative economy Commission

SFCS - SEOUL FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC STUDENTS (KOREA)

Number of members: 241

Units: 38

Department: Executive Committee

SLUCSM - SRI LANKA UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC STUDENTS' MOVEMENT

Number of members: 2,000

Units: 12

Department: National Team

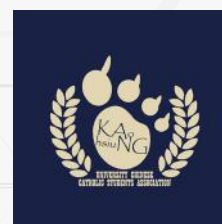


UCCSA - UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CHINESE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (TAIWAN)

Number of members: 160

Units: 30

Department: International liaison
Social media propaganda
Communication



National Movement Report 2019

AICUF - ALL INDIA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY FEDERATION

Action	Participants	Time Period	Theme	Objectives	Outcomes
Against Proposed New Education Policy draft	200	One dharma , strike and peaceful protest, signature campaign etc	“Anti-minority, dalit and tribal educational bill”.	The proposed bill should not become a law. The formation of Hindu Rashtra should not happen and it is dangerous for the indigenous people and the dalits. Christian s and Muslims should not be targeted.	The New Education Policy draft has not yet become a bill.
Protest against Citizens Amendment Act and National Registration of Citizens.	500 College Students	Independently about 5 days.	Demanding the withdrawal of CAA and NRC	To protect the rights of people belonging to all religions To prevent the ruling government for amending the present constitution of India, which is secular and protects the democratic rights of all.	The protest is still going on in different States in India. Lot of pressure from UNO and outside India Many States have decided not to support this law of the central government.
Adiwasi Diwas to organize all the indigenous people of India	2000 adwasi youth	One Day each in three places.	To protect, ‘water, forest and land’.	All the tribes to be organized under one umbrella To make the tribal youth become aware of their rights To make them aware of the Hindtva ideology of RSSS.	Unifying different groups and awareness building - going on.
Neuro Linguistic programme and entrepreneurial skills for women	900 participants in three colleges	Third week of Dec. 2019 for a period of 5 days	To free girl students from subconscious level bondages and make them think freely To infuse confidence to take up small businesses	Confidence level of girls improved and attitudinal change is taking place to take up small businesses.	Freedom from self-oppressive concepts. Courage and confidence to start small businesses.
Maha (Big) Youth Convention.	1400	One day	Today’s Youth Tomorrow’s Destiny Emphasizing Environmental Degradation and its Implication on Bihar.	1 . D i s c i p l i n e yourselves, be aware and be alert. 2.Faith in God. 3.Development of character	Awareness building of Pope’s Encyclical on environmental protection.

Key Achievements

Study club at Loyola Chennai is awakening the students to understand the socioeconomic analysis of serious issues that are affecting India Students are emerging as leaders in different colleges

Challenges

- College managements are excessively controlling the students from Action programmes
- Some State advisers seem to show more interest in Jesuit Youth Ministry which is only taking up religious activities, forgetting the original aim of AICUF .

In comparison to 2018, what different did you do in 2019?

- More units are formed in Gujarat and Tamil Nadu
- Students are coming forward to protect against the unjust policies of the Government
- Dalit students are showing interest in learning the philosophy of Dr B R Ambedkar.
- Active study circles are useful in exposing the hidden agenda of the fascist Government

Comment

- AICUF should have more full timers who are trained in vision and mission of AICUF
- In India it is time to move out of narrow boundaries and work with all the groups which stand up for secularism, democracy and human rights.
- State Advisers and Animators must actively in social action programmes



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BCSM- BANGLADESH CATHOLIC STUDENTS' MOVEMENT

Action	Participants	Time Period	Theme	Objectives	Outcomes
Conference (21st National Assembly)	36	27-28, February, 2019		Abolishment of previous Executive Committee and formation of a new one	A New EC committee of 7 members and a Chaplain was formed.
Workshop (Christian Leadership and Capacity Development Training 2019)	40	1-3 March, 2019		Bring out the Christian Leadership amongst the students, make them aware of the different leadership and self-development skills	The participants went back to their native places and run the unit activities more capable than before keeping in close relation with the church.
Training (BCSM EC Team Capacity Development Training 2019)	8	8 March, 2019	Various Challenges and steps of Mitigations for the National Executive Committee	Finding out the challenges of the national team and ways of coming out of it making a good bonding to carry out the movement activities throughout the country	A half day training conducted by the IMCSAP coordinator helped the EC members realize what they should do and they worked accordingly facing the challenges and trying to overcome them.
Conference and Exposure (24th National Conference 2019)	120	5-9 October, 2019	"Youths committed to quality education for sustainable development".	-Understand the concept of present scenario in Bangladesh regarding Education -Critical Analysis of Quality education; -Review of how we as movement is responding to education for the youths -Training on skills for critical leadership necessary to impart educational efforts -Plan action in response to illiteracy	Students realizing the importance of the quality education started a school in Dinajpur based on Kurukh language (Oran native language) and planned a quality education institute, naming Tutorial in Mymensingh (which is still under construction)
Campaign	67	19 August, 2019	Tree Plantation (Diocese Level)	Making a contribution for the environment by plantation of trees	600 plants were planted by the members in Barishal diocese under the supervision of Most Rev. Bishop Lawrence Subrato Howlader CSC. The plants are now taken care of the members as well as the local people.
Relief and Rehabilitation	100+	June-July (During the rainy season)		Distribute relief materials for the flood victims and work for rehabilitation Volunteers.	The members in association to the local Caritas office and local Church helped the flood victims by relief work and volunteering in places like Dinajpur, Chattogram dioceses.
Humanitarian Work (Distribution the Winter clothes among the needy)	300+ (in all the diocese levels)	November - January	Helping the distressed.	Making the needy people comfortable during the winter days.	Distribution of sweaters, blankets, Shirts, pants etc. among the needy in various places by the members to ensure to reduce the sufferings of the people
Conference and Exposure (Diocesan Conference)	107 (Rajshahi) 93 (Mymensingh) 78 (Sylhet)	14th to 17th August (Rajshahi) 9th to 11th December (Sylhet) 13th to 15th December (Mymensingh)	Sustainable development and the youth for environment.	Make the students realize the importance of conserving the environment and SDG	Tree plantation, learning, working for the society.
Retreat (During the advent)	300+ (in all the diocese levels)	November - December	Our Church our responsibility	Making the youth realize the value of Christianity	-Prayer -Realize Christ's sacrifice by living Way of the cross -Loving the distressed

Key Achievements

- Forming a new Executive Team ensuring the formation of new Christian Leadership
- Attending the International Youth Forum arranged by the Dicastery of Laity, Family and Life at Rome by two of the movement members.
- Kurukh School: A local school for the Oraon children by the BCSM members, where the lessons given in Kurukh Language (Mother tongue of the Oraon Indigenous community).

Challenges

- Keeping in pace with the local team
- Communication with the root level members
- Not so friendly attitude of many local religious persons
- Funding

In comparison to 2018, what different did you do in 2019?

- Formation of a new EC team
- Starting of Kurukh School (ensuring the smooth running of an indigenous language)

Comments

- New methods of learning and training for the local level members can be arranged by the AP level team.



National Movement Report 2019

INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT OF CATHOLIC STUDENTS - NEPAL

Action	Participants	Time Period	Theme	Objectives	Outcomes
Retreat & Recollection	15	2 September, 2019	"Meeting Jesus in a solitude place".	Empowering students to meet God often in a "Solitude place."	Development of our God representation. Deepen a knowledge and understanding of how to build up and maintain good relationships with self, others and God
Christmas play	22	20-23 December, 2019	"Christmas Celebration"	To proclaim the Good News, to encounter Christ and to invite people to commit to Jesus.	Can enable one to be witness. Realization of we are loved into existence by God.
SIGNIS Media Workshop	13	27 October - 2 November, 2019	"Caring for our common home".	To understand the power of media and to use it for the right purpose	Students prepared three documentaries.
Moving School program	12	18 -23 November, 2019	" Practical Capacity Building of Young Leaders to Empower and Support Their Communities in Light of Laudato Si ".	Empowering youth as caretakers for ecological sustainability, interreligious and cultural cooperation in Nepal	Students learned to exercise their roles as leaders better in the context of Nepal.

Key Achievements

- Understanding and building Christianity
- Being aware of the society and situation especially Climate change, underprivileged people and Migrants

Challenges

- Special care and attention to young catholic generation.
- Lack of opportunity to grow their Faith (Catechism, Bible etc.)
- Lack of cooperation to participate in international level program.

In comparison to 2018, what different did you do in 2019?

- Participated in international programs such as SIGNIS, Moving School program, AYA
- Can be aware of God's Creation throughout the various international programs.
- Realized that responsibility of Christian in non-Catholic country.
- Creating awareness in society where we live.

National Movement Report 2019

PERHIMPUNAN MAHASISWA KATOLIK REPUBLIK INDONESIA (PMKRI)

Action	Participants	Time Period	Theme	Objectives	Outcomes
Campaign "Kita Indonesia" (We Are Indonesia) campaign in several cities in Indonesia	2000	January- September 2019	Kita Indonesia	Arouse the spirit of nationalism and diversity of Indonesia which has been misused by certain groups for political interests.	People the younger generation realize that diversity is Indonesia's national identity, and respect each other.
Lokakarya Nasional "Transformasi Organisasi"	200 Participants	February 2019	"Organizational Transformation in the Digital Age Towards New Contextual Habitus"	Becomes a discussion room for organizational transformation	Seminar and discussion
Konferensi Studi Regional (KSR)	100	July- September 2019	KSR Theme is in accordance with the conditions in each region	Discuss issues that are developing in the region and nationally that will later give birth to recommendations that will be audited with local governments.	Seminar National
National Retreat	100	22-24 Mei 2019	"Meneguhkan Iman dan Kasih dalam Bingkai Kebhinekaan"	Reflect on yourself and become a meeting room with cross branches.	Sharing
Konferensi Studi Nasional	400	17-21 September 2019	"Pembangunan Berkelanjutan Dalam Memperkokoh Ketahanan Nasional Menuju Indonesia Emas 2045"	Understand about sustainable development.	Seminar and discussion.
South East Asia Program (SEAP) 2019	6 Country	Bogor, 13-18 September 2019	"Student Catholic Leadership In The Context Of Religious Fundamentalism and Diversity"	Catholic students know and can be good leaders	Sharing and discussion

Key Achievements

- Increased participation of PMKRI branches in national activities (55%)
- Additional PMKRI branch candidates (2 Branch Candidates)
- Increase in the number of students joining PMKRI, especially the eastern Indonesia region
- Good relations with the Indonesian Catholic Church Hierarchy

Challenges

- Funding constraints at the Branch level
- Adjustment to the advancement of information technology
- Application of technology in organizations
- Constraints for branches with minimal technological infrastructure
- PMKRI organizational system that has not been updated according to the progress of the times
- Mastery of foreign languages (English)

Comments

Recognizing the progress of an increasingly advanced era, PMKRI will improve from the internal through the rejuvenation of organizational systems nationally. Only by rejuvenating the organizational system and increasing the resources of its members that PMKRI can compete with other organizations.

National Movement Report 2019

SRI LANKA UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC STUDENTS' MOVEMENT (SLUCSM)

Action	Participants	Time Period	Theme	Objectives	Outcomes
Seminar (National Level)	75	02- 04 February, 2019	Problems faced by Sri Lankan Youth	To assemble members from all units of Sri Lanka Catholic Students' Movement to discuss about problems faced by Sri Lankan youth at present.	The seminar was successfully completed at the John Paul II Centre, Ma-Eliya, Ja-Ela where students had an opportunity to participate in several discussions conducted by Rev. Fr. Claude Perera, Rev. Fr. Jude Chrishantha, Rev. Fr. Bennette Mellowa, Prof. Terence Purasinghe, Prof. Anton Meemana and by Mr. Rev. Tissera. His Rev. Dr. Maxwell Silva the Auxiliary Bishop of Colombo also graced the occasion.
Trip	140	February 2019	"Organizational Transformation in the Digital Age Towards New Contextual Habitus"	Becomes a discussion room for organizational transformation	Seminar and discussion
Konferensi Studi Regional (KSR)	100	4 March, 2019	Trip to Kanneliya	To strengthen unity among all students of SLUCM Colombo region	All members helped each other during the journey and this trip made the bond stronger within the CSM family.
The Regional Committee Trip	16	16 June, 2019		To strengthen the bond between committee members	Members were able to enjoy the trip and deepen their interpersonal relationships with other members
Sports Day	160	7 July, 2019		To increase the brotherhood among the members of the Catholic Students' Movement as well as to give an opportunity to get to know each other	Students participated in many events organized and were able to develop friendships with members of other units
Retreat	55	1 -3 November, 2019		To develop the spiritual wellbeing of students and to strengthen their faith.	Students actively participated in prayer sessions and confessions. Thus, it helped the students to be closer to God Almighty
Sports day	30	3 March, 2019		To involve the members in sports activities and therein eliminate the stressfulness of the academic life	To involve the members in sports activities and therein eliminate the stressfulness of the academic life.
Seminar	15	March, 2019	Youth for Jesus	To create fellowship and bonding among the catholic students of the university and to uplift them spiritually	A spiritual programme of one-day was conducted for the catholic undergraduates of the university
Retreat	17	24 March, 2019		To repent for our sins and prepare for the season of Lent	A retreat was organized at Supurath Arana, Seeduwa for the season of Lent which included a way of the cross.
Campaign	33	23-24, December, 2019	A Clean Christmas	Building a Christmas Tree out of recyclable plastic bottles in collaboration with the Rotaract Club of Badulla and to spread awareness of reducing, reusing and recycling	Had an opportunity to get involved in decorating St. Mary's Cathedral, Badulla as the CSM of UWL. To build a collaborative relationship with the Rotaract Club of Badulla.
Retreat/ Pilgrimage	42	2 September, 2019	Visit to Our Lady Madufor Jesus	To increase the faith and unity among the students of the society	Rev.Fr. Jeewantha advised about the life of catholic students.

Key Achievements

- Was able to help the church by helping to make the official database of the Easter Sunday attack victims.

Challenges

- Membership - Getting members from all units to participate in events was a challenge since units are spread over the country.

In comparison to 2018, what did you do differently in 2019?

- Composition of the SLUCSM National Committee - A committee was appointed to represent all the units across the country.
- SLUCSM National Committee Meetings - Meetings are conducted once a month instead of once every three months.



UCCSA - UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CHINESE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Action	Participants	Time Period	Theme	Objectives	Outcomes
90th Faith formation camp, 91th Faith formation camp	90th : Participants: 34 Staff: 22 91th : Participants: 36 Staff: 23	90th : 1/26-1/31 91th : 8/18-8/23	Faith formation, vocation, self-acknowledgement	All college students who are interested in catholic faith	Weekly gathering in each branch
Annual National gathering trip	200 Participants	February 2019	Travel in His Peace and Blessing	National gathering, reflection on Laudato Si	Weekly gathering in each branch.
31th Leadership formation camp	Delegates: 23 Secretariat: 6	26-29 August, 2019	Leadership formation, Sharing and solving reality problem	All the administrators and delegates from branches	Regional administrator meeting (once a month), option for poor campaign.
47th National conference	Delegates: 35 Secretariat: 5	27-30 January, 2019	Amendment proposal, election for next Secretariat, discussion on national objectives and action plan.	All executives or delegates from each branch.	New Constitution Amendment, National objectives and action plan for 2019

Key Achievements

- Raise awareness of participation in national conference.
- Introduce “Catholic social teaching” program in Taiwan Youth Day.

Challenges

- Leadership: The huge age gap between members cause a difficulty to transfer administration.
- Admin: The number of the participants in national movement has decreased.

In comparison to 2018, what different did you do in 2019?

Social awareness: EAP program has broadly opened our mind and action for the need, the sharing of EAP experiences and follow-up activities has successfully spread out through the nation. Within 2017 and 2018, the social awareness such as migration and homeless issue has raised up in each regional activity, embodying with the idea of see-judge-action and similar exposure. In 2019, we start to implement “option for the poor” value into our national meeting, though it takes time for the whole members to digest and develop it, it is quite an progress for the national community to walk for the same path and direction.



Sub Regional Program of IMCS-AP

IMCS sub regional programs are designed to provide focused study trainings and study sessions to students based on issues common to the particular subregions. Thematic areas for these programs are decided by the student representatives from the sub regions' national movements and IMCS Asia Pacific coordination provides the facilitation for program organization. Following the major 3 sub regions under IMCS Asia Pacific, it's expected to facilitate 3 sub-regional programs annually. With the available Human and Financial resources, IMCS AP secretariat facilitated South East Asia and East Asia Sub regional programs in year 2019. Secretariat is envisioning to facilitate South Asia sub regional training program as well in the near future.

EAST ASIA PROGRAM (EAP) 2019 - "DIGNITY FOR CHILDREN"

"Anyone who welcomes one little child like this in my name welcomes me (Matthew 18:5)"

The East Asia Programme (EAP) is participated by all member societies in the sub region and is held during the summer break in different locations (Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, Japan and South Korea) in a rotating manner. Students learn to understand more about IMCS's mission and vision, "option for the poor" through different themes that varies year to year. The program includes mass, national reports presentation, panel discussion, exposure, social analysis, discussion, sharing, site seeing and cultural night etc.... EAP 2019 was held in the National Olympics Memorial Youth Centre and Shinseikaikan from 5th to 11th of August 2019. This year's theme was "Dignity for children", which was being decided by the EAP participants in 2018 in Hong Kong.



EAP is a good learning opportunity for the students to know about the social situation in the East Asia countries. With the similar challenges being encountered in this sub region, despite the language barrier, young people can easily share their thoughts and develop a strong bonding after the program to fight against the unjust society. Through the panel discussion and exposure, participants could understand more about the challenge of Japan's children, especially to those economically deprived groups and children from the migrant workers. This year, IMCS-AP's lay chaplain, Law Lap Man (TorToise), as an EAP alumni, hosted a session to share with the participants about the mission and background of the IMCS and how EAP helped to mobilize participants to be involved in the Ecumenical Movement to build the Kingdom of God on earth.





**“DIGNITY
for
CHILDREN”
EAST ASIA
PROGRAMME-2019**



SUB REGIONAL PROGRAM of IMCS-AP

SOUTH EAST ASIA PROGRAM 2019, JAKARTA, INDONESIA



Jakarta, Indonesia IMCS Pax Romana Sub regional level programs are providing Formation and Exchange to student leaders with a focus on the sub regional level issues.

South East Asia Program (SEAP) 2019 was held from 13th to 18th September 2019 in the Bogor, Jakarta, Indonesia. The 5 days long programme was conducted under the theme of "Student Catholic Leadership in the context of Religious Fundamentalism and Diversity" with the participation of 19 Students from 4 countries. Perhimpunan Mahasiswa Katolik Republik Indonesia (PMKRI), national IMCS member of Indonesia, hosted the programme.

OBJECTIVES:

- Understand concept of diversity.
- Critical Analysis of Religious Fundamentalism.
- Review of how IMCS in the region is responding.
- Training ourselves on skills for critical leadership.
- Plan our action in response to religious fundamentalism.



Participants Name List

No	Name	Country	Gender
01	Mai Thi Phuong Thrin	Vietnam	F
02	Pham Quang Khanh	Vietnam	M
03	Doan Chong Thrin	Vietnam	M
04	Luu Duc Hoang Long	Vietnam	M
05	Tran Thi Huong	Vietnam	F
06	Tran Van Son	Vietnam	M
07	Benjamaporn Cheadee	Catholic Students Network Of Thailand (CSNT)	M
08	Thanabat Wongvilaiwalin	Catholic Students Network Of Thailand (CSNT)	F
09	Chontawat Wano	Catholic Students Network Of Thailand (CSNT)	M
10	Delfina Elisa Da Costa	Timor Leste	F
11	Evangelino Rui Hulamuda	Timor Leste	M
12	Victoria Tomasia Miguel Macio Dacosta	Timor Leste	M
13	Mikael Sarweddy Leo Siahaan	Union of Catholic University Students of Republic of Indonesia	M
14	Yoseph Aurelius Lado	Union of Catholic University Students of Republic of Indonesia	M
15	Elisabet Ardiningsih Wiko	Union of Catholic University Students of Republic of Indonesia	F
16	Natalia Laurensia Carmelia Yewen	Union of Catholic University Students of Republic of Indonesia	F
17	Kosmas Mus Guntur	Union of Catholic University Students of Republic of Indonesia	M
18	Mikael Yohanes B. Bone	Union of Catholic University Students of Republic of Indonesia	M
19	Benediktus Wastu Paramabo (M)	Union of Catholic University Students of Republic of Indonesia	M
20	Tomson Sabungan Silalahi, Secretary General	Union of Catholic University Students of Republic of Indonesia	M
21	Prudensius Dagher Sarame, International Affairs	Union of Catholic University Students of Republic of Indonesia	M
22	Ms. Re Re Marselina	Union of Catholic University Students of Republic of Indonesia	F
23	Michael F Pirez	Union of Catholic University Students of Republic of Indonesia	M

Schedule Of SEAP-2019

Time	Date					
	13 September (Friday)	14 September (Saturday)	15 September (Sunday)	16 September (Monday)	17 September (Tuesday)	18 September (Wednesday)
7.00 – 7.30 am		Spiritual Exercise (Thailand)	Spiritual Exercise (Malaysia)	Spiritual Exercise (Philippines)	Spiritual Exercise (Vietnam)	Spiritual Exercise (Thailand)
7.30 – 8.30 am		Breakfast				
8.30 – 9.00 am		Introduction	Recap			
9.00 – 10.30 am		Session 1a: "South East Today"	Session 2: "Fundamentalism"	Session 3a: "Religious Fundamentalism"	Session 6a: Leadership Skills – Critical thinking	Session 6e: Leadership Skills – Solidarity
10.30 – 11.00 am		Break				
11.00 – 12.30 pm		Session 1b: "South East Today"	Exposure: Witnessing Diversity	Session 3b: "Religious Fundamentalism"	Session 6b: Leadership Skills – Critical thinking	Session 6f: Community Building
12.30 – 1.30 pm		Lunch		Lunch		
1.30 – 3.30 pm		Session 1c: "South East Today"		Session 4: "Theological Response to Fundamentalism"	Session 6c: Leadership Skills – Human Rights	Session 7: Country level Strategic Planning for responding to Fundamentalism
3.30 – 4.00 pm		Break			Break	
4.00 – 4:30 pm		Session 1d: Orientation on IMCS		Session 5: "Critical Catholic Leadership"	Session 6d: Leadership Skills – Inclusiveness & Ecumenism	Session 8: Southeast Asia Strategic Planning for responding to Fundamentalism
4:30 – 6:30 pm		Session 2: Religion				
6.30 – 7.00 pm		Break	Sunday Mass	Break	Break	Closing Mass
7.00 – 8.00 pm	Opening Mass & Welcome Dinner (Indonesia)		Dinner			Cultural Night & Closing Dinner
8.00 – 9.30 pm			Learning Group Discussion			

THE IMPRESSION DURING THE IMCS SOUTH EAST ASIA (SEAP) PROGRAM 2019



At first, I would like to tell how did I join IMCS Program. I get the information about IMCS from our Head of PMKRI branch East Jakarta. I felt happy when heard this because it is fresh from the oven program for me. I was too curious and I decided to join this event. I was surprised when I knew that all the participants came from different countries. It is challenging for me because I have to always speak in English to another, not in Bahasa. I have to face the music to improve my English skills.

I followed this event from the beginning to the end. During this activity, I learned many things, get new information that I have never known before, learned how to be patient and learned to be good in teamwork. Not only these but also I got a lot of moral lessons. The difference is the common thing on this earth, but if the difference is able to unites the diversity then it is extraordinary. International Movement of Catholic Students in the program that unite all participants of different backgrounds, of different ages, educational backgrounds, cultures and languages, and different countries too. What does make us the one? All the participants came from different countries but we felt one as the Catholic students, as the children of Jesus Christ. We are one because we faced almost the same things in our own environments, in our social life in our country, in our lovely world. We cannot close our eyes to see the reality and we can't always close our ears to the deepest lament of untouchable people. We can't keep on pretending, we need to speak up and do something.

There are too many things that I got during this activity. I opened my eyes to the new information told by my friends from abroad. They share their information in their country, told about the history of their country until all the problems that they faced nowadays. We discuss with each other and sometimes we debated, and all were through as well. Diversity is common for us but the meeting is the first step in how we overcome all the conflict based on pluralism. Pluralism is a good thing if we realize that we are different and try to respect one another. But on the other hand, pluralism is the biggest root cause of conflict if we unaccepted the diversity of our social life. With this program, we met and discussed all the current issues in society and we have to get critical

thinking to understand all the cases not only on the surface but also from the root cause and tried to find the solutions to overcome the problems. We are different of course we had a different view to see the case based on our personal point of view but in this program, we learned to respect other opinions and discussed together to understand the root cause and tried to fix it based on our ability.

In this era of disruptive technology, we faced different kinds of problems. We faced another type of colonized. We have to always be responsive and is critical to all developments in the real life of our daily life. As Catholic students, we have to be responsible for social safety and prosperity. We are young. We are fresh. We are free to show who we are. Speak up and break down the silence. During the discussion in the IMCS Program, we practiced to be critical thinking and I think it is very suitable for us in this era.

Finally, I hope IMCS always holds the same program by discussing the actual and current issues faced by society. This is also the way to help the Catholic Children to be responsive to all problems and try to find solutions to each problem. We have to break the silence and show freedom. We are unhampered if we courage to take action together with the Love of Jesus Christ.

Elisabet Ardiningsih Wiko

Member

Union of Catholic University Students of the Republic of Indonesia (PMKRI)



MY GREAT EXPERIENCES IN SOUTH EAST ASIA PROGRAM (SEAP) 2019



It was a great privilege for me to take a part in South East Asia Program (SEAP) 2019 which organized by International Movement of Catholic Students' Asia Pacific and local host Perhimpunan Mahasiswa Katolik Republik Indonesia (PMKRI). It was held in Villa Panchahati Bogor, on 13th-18th of September 2019 with the general theme is **"STUDENT CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP IN THE CONTEXT OF RELIGIOUS FUNDAMENTALISM AND DIVERSITY"**.

It was the first time for us as East Timor students joined this IMCS program. There were only three of us from East Timor who participated in this program, me and my two other friends. There were also some participants from another country in South East Asia such as Indonesia, Vietnam, and Thailand. At the beginning of the program, I was unfriendly and unfamiliar to other participants because we have never met each other before, but then the days changed and it also changed me. I became more inclusive, friendly and familiar to other participants because of the activities in the program which run in a way that connected the participants firstly.

The program was very impressed and valuable to me because it was as guider that guides the participants to see different things of life from different points of view towards reality with analytical and critical thinking. It trained the participants not to become blinded and deaf towards social injustice and discrimination in terms of human rights and religion but we should overcome religious fundamentalism and diversity. It also pursued the participants to come out with some constructive and innovative ideas to create positive change that can contribute to the common goods.

During a week of being involved in the program, I gained more knowledge and new experiences. I learned a lot of new valuable things about life that I have never learned in my academic life previously. I also got many useful information and issues related to the theme of the program through the team discussion and team exposure that we did during the

program.

The group discussion brings me lots of new experiences and a great point that I took from it, was how to respect and consider the ideas of other people, besides I learned that the most important thing is the teamwork and communication between coworkers and subordinates. If we cannot communicate effectively, the results will also be ineffective.

On the third day of the program, we did an exposure based on the theme of the program, and in my group, we visited Kampung Sawah, East Jakarta, it is the place of an inter-religion community which consists of three different religions (Catholic, Protestant, and Muslim). In this place, I saw lots of surprising things, I got the biggest inspiration from the lifestyle of communities in Kampung Sawah, which kill the religious fundamentalism and diversity, they live harmoniously without discriminations and conflicts although they have different faith, they still spread love in their society no matter what, and there was the place where I found the true definition of respect and peace, and I think this will be the greatest experience of mine, which will be a great example to the world, like what Mother Teresa said: "We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love". it means that even a small and simple thing that we do in our daily life might have great meaning to other people as long as we do it with love.

After all, I want to conclude that my involvement in South East Asia program really open my mind to learn how to handle life in the future, because I used to think that only by going to school my future is guaranteed, but now I realize that we do not learn for school, but for life "Non-scholae, sed vitae discimus". These words tell us that the big picture of education is not only by going to school and getting formally educated, as it is not only about studying your subject but also about finding experiences and apply to real life. It taught me a great lesson that everything falls and rises on leadership, how responsible you are and how dare you to want to be the voice of the voiceless.

Victoria Tomasía Miguel Maclo Costa
Timor Leste



IMCS- REGIONAL REPORT

CAPACITY BUILDING

CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING OF BCSM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2019

On the 8th March 2019, a day-long program of Capacity building was held at the CBCB center for BCSM Executive Committee and was organized by BCSM EC and attended by 6 members out of 7 members. The training was facilitated by the IMCS AP coordinator William Nokrek and former BCSM general Secretary Shoshi Sylvester Peris. The sessions conducted by William Nokrek were on the methodology of BCSM, local fundraising, and social issue analysis. Through the SWOT analysis, the challenges faced by BCSM were identified and proper focus and attention are given on this matter.

Shoshi Sylvester Peris conducted a session on BCSM EC team activities and how to build and develop a relationship between the local unit and diocese level BCSM.

Both the alumni of BCSM shared their experiences and helped the new Executive committee develop their capacity. In this one-day program, the new Executive Committee gained lots of ideas on how to manage and conduct their activities smoothly during their tenure.

The training was attended by Bishop Subrata Lawrence Howlader CSC the Chairperson, Episcopal commission for youth to give a morale boost for the committee.



IMCS AP-PAX ROMANA TRANSMISSION MEETING



International Movement of Catholic Students Asia Pacific-Pax Romana Coordination transmission meeting was held in the regional house in Las Pinas City in the Philippines from 23rd to 27 April 2019. Former and the new teams of IMCS Asia Pacific regional coordination participated in the 4 days long meeting. The former coordination handed over the responsibility to the new Coordination. In the meeting, the previous coordination team shared their experiences and challenges.



Fr. Fung Jee Vui, SJ, (Board of Trustee Director) Mr. Ravi Tissera (Outgoing AP Coordinator) Ms. Ann Beatrice (Outgoing Lay Chaplain) and William Nokrek (Incoming AP Coordinator), Sr. Jantana Wongsankakorn, (Chaplain), Mr. John Shanth Kumar, (Incoming Lay Chaplain) and Ms. Lapman Law (Incoming Lay Chaplain) were present at the transmission meeting.

MOVEMENT BUILDING

IMCS AP Coordinator and IMCS AP Regional Chaplain Visited AICUF office

IMCS AP Coordinator William Nokrek and Regional Chaplain Mr. John Shanth Kumar Joseph visited All India Catholic University Federation (AICUF) office on 22-23 of February 2019. They talked to National Adviser Fr. Emmanuel and discussed the AICUF situation and updates.

They were also joined by the Students meeting in the AICUF office. When they met the Students from the Loyola college Branch, they shared about the IMCS activities and listened to their opinion about the movement. Students shared their experience and the reality of being a student in their respective branches



IMCS Asia Pacific Team visitation to Malaysia



IMCS Asia Pacific outgoing coordinator Ravi Tissera and chaplain Anne Beatrice made a visitation in Malaysia from 8th to 14th April 2019. During the visitation, IMCS AP officers managed to meet several former leaders of the Malaysian students' movement such as Prof. Helen Ting, Ms. Agatha Foo, Ms. Veronica Ratnam, Prof. John Phua and Ms. Erlinda Joseph. They expressed their interest to contribute to rebuild the national students' movement in Malaysia. IMCS officers were thankful to them for their interest to assist in the movement building and expressed their gratitude for the financial contributions they made for the IMCS Mission House renovation. IMCS AP officers got the opportunity to have a fellowship with the theologian and the former chaplain of World Students' Christian Federation, Ms. Ting Jin, who has been a great resource person and an ecumenical friend of the movement. IMCS Asia Pacific officers met with the bishops,

campus ministry officers and the chaplains of archdiocese of Kuching and diocese of Penang during the visitation. Bishop Sebastian Francis of Penang diocese warmly welcomed the IMCS officers to the diocese and fondly shared his memories as a former chaplain of the Malaysian catholic students' movement in the 1980s. IMCS officers were thankful to the Bishop for the donations made for IMCS for the mission house renovation and further they discussed about reestablishing the national catholic students movement in Malaysia. Bishop invited the IMCS officers to meet with the Penang diocese campus ministry officers and the chaplain. Campus ministry shared about their current mechanism, activities and future plans. After the visitation in Penang diocese, IMCS officers visited the Archdiocese of Kuching, accepting the invitation of Archbishop Simon Poh. Archbishop Simon Poh, as the bishop in charge of the Malaysian youth ministry warmly welcomed the IMCS AP officers. He shared about the current structure of the campus ministry in Malaysia and discussed about his vision for the youth ministry. As a former chaplain of YCS Malaysia, he was quite interested about reinstating a proper national student movement but shared about the difficulties due to lack of human resources and necessary structure.



IMCS AP and UST Pax Romana MEETING

IMCS AP Coordinator William Nokrek and Outgoing Coordinator Ravi Tissera participated in the UST Pax Romana meeting on the 25th September 2019 at University of Shantha Thomas.

The meeting started with a session of introduction and the spirituality of IMCS. The meeting emphasized on the spirituality of justice, peace, and solidarity. It also helped, those new to IMCS, to realize that they are part of a bigger family of Catholic student movement. In the meeting, student's leader and IMCS AP coordinators discussed about the expansion of the movement in Philippines. After resigned Students Catholic Action from IMCS there is no any national movement in Philippines.



Courtesy meeting with Episcopal Youth Commission Philippines Bishops and Secretary

IMCS AP Coordinator William Nokrek and Outgoing Coordinator Ravi Tissera met with the Episcopal Youth Commission, Philippines incoming Chairman Rev. Bishop Rex Alarcon and Outgoing Chairman and Board of Trustees Director Bishop Leopoldo Jaucian in ECY office on 25th September 2019.

Bishop Leopoldo shared with Bishop Rex about IMCS. Outgoing Coordinator introduced the incoming coordinator to the bishops and shared with them the current situation at IMCS.



Courtesy meeting with UCCSA Chaplains

IMCS AP Coordinator William Nokrek and Outgoing Coordinator Ravi Tissera met with Sr. Teresita Tsai and Ms. Teresa, Chaplains of University Catholic Chinese Students Association (UCCSA), Taiwan on 25th September 2019 in Mall of Asia.

They discussed about the National Transformative Leadership (NTL) Program in Taiwan. The Chaplain of UCCSA told, they would organize a training program for the Student leader and Chaplains after discussion and would inform us later.



IMCS AP Regional Chaplain and former Coordinator Visited SFCS



IMCS Asia Pacific Lay Chaplain, Law Lap Man and IMCS Pax Romana International President, Ravi Tissera made a courtesy visit to Seoul Federation of Catholic Students (SFCS) on 18th October 2019. During the meeting, they met with the SFCS chaplain Fr. Peter Bong, pastoral workers and some of the student leaders of the federation. Fr. Bong and the student leaders shared about the SFCS programs and annual farming camp which has given the opportunity for students to see the realities of the farming communities. And they further discussed how to build the Korean Federation of Catholic Students which has been reduced to limited functions due to lack of resources. IMCS representatives shared about the current situation of the movement and support from the International Team to the Leadership training program. They further discussed Asia Pacific team's assistance for the preparation of East Asia Program 2020.

Meeting with the Representatives of Catholic Organization in Philippines

IMCS AP Coordinator William Nokrek and Outgoing Coordinator Ravi Tissera participated in the meeting with representatives from Pax Christi, Miriam Collage, Office of Social Concern and Involvement of De Ateneo University and Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines on the 7 November 2019 in Miriam College.

Ravi Tissera shared the IMCS history, spirituality of justice, peace, and solidarity. It also helped them, know the IMCS, to realize that they are part of a bigger family of Catholic student movement. The participants of the meeting agreed to establish a national movement in the Philippines. But they told, they need time to discuss more about it.

At the end of the meeting, representatives of the organizations proposed the name of Karlo Abadines as a convener for the next meeting.



IMCS Pax Romana AP courtesy meeting with Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines



IMCS AP Coordinator William Nokrek and outgoing IMCS AP Coordinator and incoming International President Ravi Tissera met with Mr. Allan Arellano, Chief Executive officer and Mr. Karlo Abadines, Advocacy officer of Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines on 19 November 2019 in CEAP office.

In the meeting, Ravi Tissera shared the IMCS Pax Romana History, vision, mission and Spirituality. They talked about establishing the national movement in Philippines. Mr. Karlo Abadines told that they would organize another meeting in January 2020. But they will talk first with the leaders of different organizations and inform IMCS AP coordinator.

ADVOCACY

South Asian Dalit Conference was held in Bengaluru, Karnataka



South Asia Dalit Conference 2019 was held from 13-14 February 2019 at NBCLC, Bengaluru, Karnataka. CBCI SC/BC has organized two days Conference on Dalit Christians under the theme of “Dalits witnessing Faith at the Crossroads in South Asia and Christian Response”. H.E. Cardinal Peter Kodwo Appiah Turkson, prefect of the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development in the Vatican was present as the Chief Guest. CBCI Bishops, Priests, Dalit leaders and Human Rights activists and 170 participants from different states of India participated in this conference.

IMCS's Asia Pacific Coordinator William Nokrek participated as the facilitator and shared his views about the Dalits rights. IMCS Nepal Alumni, ICMICA member and Human rights activist Mr. Prakash Khadka, Former IYCW Asian Coordinator Mr. Sinapan Samydorai, Singapore, Dalit Rights Activist Mr.

Paul Sinnappan, Malaysia, and Ms. Pbaby, Thailand participated as the Facilitator and shared the current situation of the Dalit peoples in their country.

As a forward to take the conference message, the participants decided to set up the Asian Forum of Dalit Christians. They also said they would join the Church to focus on Dalit Christian women, youth and children.

In the end all the bishops and other delegates submitted the memorandum to H.E. Cardinal Turkson requesting H.E. to take the issue of Dalit Christian to the Holy Father 'Pope Francis'. It is also planned to come up with Dalit Christian forum at Asian level to address the issues/concerns related to them and discussion was also taken on linking the CBCI office for SC/BC with Vatican.

Busan Democracy Forum (BuDF) 2019



Asia Democracy Network (ADN) co-organized 2019 Busan Democracy Network (BuDF) with Busan Metropolitan City, KOICA, Unesco - Apceiu, Asia Development Alliance and Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation (KCOOC). It was held from 14-16

October 2019 under the theme of “Transformative Global Citizenship Education for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies- Role of SDG Target 4.7 and Goal 16.”

Former IMCS Asia Pacific Coordinator and currently the International President, Ravi Tissera Represented the IMCS in Busan Democracy Forum. Former IMCS Asia Pacific Coordinator and former Secretary General Pax Romana ICMICA, Anselmo Lee attended the program as the main Facilitator.

In the Session on Democracy Education in Asia, ADN's officers gave a presentation on ADN's work and project on Asia Democracy Academy: Next Generation of Democracy Advocates. Under the different elements of Democracy several panel

discussions were organized in BuDF and Ravi Tissera participated in the panel on “Promoting Inter-Religious Harmony” which looked at a few examples that demonstrate the tremendous gains which can be won from genuine inter religious dialogue and action. He presented about the IMCS participation in Inter religious, Intercultural dialogue and ecumenism through the formation programs, advocacy, networking and solidarity actions.



NETWORKS & ALLIANCES

Asian Youth Academy (AYA) and Asian Theology Forum (ATF) 2019



Asian Lay Leaders Forum (ALL Forum) is a partner organization of IMCS Asia Pacific. Every year IMCS AP National movement leaders join their annual program called Asian Youth Academy (AYA) and Asian Theology Forum (ATF).

Asian Youth Academy and Asian Theology Forum (AYA/ATF) 2019 was held in Chiangmai, Thailand together with CLUMP and RTRC from 1st to 11th August 2019 at the Communal Life of Love and Unity of the Mountain People (CLUMP) Centre.

The 70 delegates along with excellent speakers discussed and shared diverse issues under the theme “Wisdom of Religions/ Cultural Traditions in Asia as Responding to Ecological Crisis and Human Security”.

IMCS Asia Pacific 6 Student leaders participated at this program.

Serial No	Name	Country	Gender
1	Akaash Bharghav	AICUF	M
2	Nishan Rema	BCSM	M
3	Tonni Gloria Roy	BCSM	F
4	Man Tamang	IMCS Nepal	M
5	Amila Perera, OMI	SLUCSM	M
6	Keshawa Perea	SLUCSM	M
7	Re Re Marselina	PMKRI	F

MY EXPERIENCE WITH THE ASIAN YOUTH ACADEMY & ASIAN THEOLOGY FORUM 2019



As an Oblate seminarian I would like to share my experiences from the great opportunity to participate as one of the delegates from Sri Lanka in the Asian Youth Academy and Asian Theology Forum

2019, Chiang Mai, Thailand, 1st to 11th August 2019. This was held at the Communal Life of Love and Unity of the Mountain People (CLUMP) Centre.

First, my heartfelt gratitude goes to the Asian Lay Leaders (ALL) Forum and International Movement of Catholic Students (IMCS) for inviting us to participate with the Young Christian Activists from 12 Asian countries that brought together people from distinct professions and backgrounds. The 70 delegates along with excellent speakers discussed and shared diverse issues under the theme “Wisdom of Religions/ Cultural Traditions in Asia as Responding to Ecological Crisis and Human Security”.

At this point, I will recall a few personal experiences that touched me during the programme. One was our exposure in Pa Pae village

which is located 120Km away from the CLUMP Centre. The village is blessed generously with natural resources viz., rivers, natural springs, fruit orchards, fertile soil and intriguing flora and fauna. This serene atmosphere gave me immense opportunities to reflect on the beautiful spiritual bond that is established between humans and nature.

“Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs” (LS: 1)

We experienced a ‘home stay’ in the village for three days which was inspiring and educational for all our group members. We were able to explore the unseen rich culture of KEREN and LAWA tribes (both tribes have migrated to Northern Thailand territories over a hundred of years ago from Myanmar and Cambodia). Many among the hundreds of families of the village recognize themselves as Christians and Buddhists while few still follow tribal spiritual and ritual activities and practices. It is worth noting that none of the villagers seem to have not forgotten their local culture and traditions which certainly contributed to the progress and unity of the community.

We visited all three religious centres of the village, i.e., Christian, Catholic and Buddhist; Royal initiated organic farming project,

rice bank project and a village school. We also participated in a meeting with the Chiefs and Elders of the community and they voiced their concern regarding the government's proposed plan on declaration of a national park in the area, which will be a faltering obstruction for the inseparable unity between nature and the mountain people. It is essential to show special care for indigenous communities and their cultural traditions. They are not merely one minority among others, but should be the principal dialogue partners, especially when large projects affecting their land are proposed. For them, land is not a commodity but rather a gift from God and from their ancestors who rest there, a sacred space with which they need to interact if they are to maintain their identity and values" (LS: 146)

We were well served with organic food and beverages (babycose and rice wine was my favourite) by our host families and their hospitality towards us was indeed remarkable and will be remembered. It should be mentioned that although the villagers have many links with the outside and developed world, they have chosen to live a life of simplicity and with minimum resources. It is amazing to see the young people who work in the city, come back to the community during weekends. This is a clear sign of how deep rooted their culture is in them and what they envision about the future of the community of Pa Pae village.

In the academic forum we discussed topics such as Neo Liberalism, Need to establish a Synodal Church, women leadership and decision making role in the Church, Roman sex abuse summit and breaking the culture of silence in Asia, gave me an insight and a broader vision into my religious life and spiritual practice. It reminded me continuously of my social responsibilities. It is about first waking up to the realities of the world and signs of the time and then working to build an inclusive Church which embraces the earth community with respect, love and sensitivity. Our Academic discussions on various topics are to be commended in many respects for its unique message given to all of us in order to recognize the urgency which is required to address climate change, disproportionate effects on the poor, peace building and creating inclusive communities in Asia.

Our many visits to the NIROTHARAM VIPASSANA meditation centre, which was located close to the CLUMP centre, gave me an incredible opportunity and insights to ponder and reflect deeply on the role of women leadership and empowerment in our communities. I was deeply convinced after speaking to the Buddhist Bhikkunies, who had been brave enough to travel to Sri Lanka for women ordinations, in the midst of a very much male dominant and patriarchal institutional pressure. Phara AJahn Nanthayani, Foundress of the community and eminent Dhamma teacher explained about their monastic life style and young Bhikkuni Achirya taught us meditation skills and techniques in a very elaborative manner which got us all interested.

As delegates from Sri Lanka, we presented our country report on the topic "After the recent terrorist attack, what should be the "possible" and "practical" ways for inter-religious dialogue? This was timely and relevant to the given theme of the forum and Asian context. We explained the present situation of the country after the heinous acts on Easter Sunday and presented some root causes for such a tragedy from what we have observed



over the past several years in the country and the world. Identifying Muslims as a kind of degraded species from the world and particularly in the country was clearly described as an obstacle for an effective inter-religious dialogue. In our lengthy presentation we stressed the following components: transformation of attitudes towards Muslim community, positive interactions with Muslims in the country and the value of listening as some of the practical and effective ways to engage in inter-religious dialogue in the country.

As an Oblate seminarian I'm not only grateful for the opportunity given me but also for the establishment of a valuable link between ALL Forum and Oblate Family through AYA/ATF 2019. I consider it something beneficial to continue our Oblate heritage which we have received from St. Eugene De Mazenod, our beloved Founder, who put youth at the centre of our call to mission (36th General Chapter Art 18). ALL Forum also aims to empower Young Catholic leaders of the Church at social ministry levels which includes similar objectives of the Oblate JPIC (Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation) programme such as education and advocacy, efforts on behalf of the disadvantaged people in our society and promotion of the integrity of



creation through education and advocacy. It should also be mentioned that two Oblates viz., late Frs. Peter Pillai OMI (1904-1964) and Tissa Balasooriya OMI (1924-2013), contributed immensely to cause of social justice in Sri Lanka and established Sri Lankan University Catholic Students' Movement, with a strong vision towards forming young social activists locally and internationally.

Finally, their dream has become a reality through the IMCS in which Fr. Balasooriya motivated youth and, as the first Asia-Pacific chaplain of the movement, which play a major role in supporting for the ALL Forum today.

In response to a request from AYA/ATF 2019, we presented an action plan for the Oblate Seminary and for the Sri Lankan University Catholic Students' Movement for a year. The presented document is dedicated mainly to establish an effective inter-religious dialogue within our own communities and neighbourhood in order to eradicate anti-Islamic and anti-Muslim discriminatory practices and sentiments from many Sinhalese and Tamil people in our society especially after the Easter Sunday terrorist attack in Sri Lanka. "Our Congregation, an "expert in internationality", cannot be absent from these debates on Islam. Now, by our presence in various Muslim contexts where Christians are a tiny minority the Oblates living in these areas are an essential resource for understanding the phenomenon in its complexity" (36th General Chapter on Islam). It has also highlighted the importance of caring and that 'the earth' is our common home and has given possibilities and ways to respect and acknowledge a person's dignity. Flora and fauna are an important link and source to acknowledge the sensitivity of all that is around us and the environment we live in.

Inter-faith dialogue is a challenging process which advocates differing religious traditions to encounter each other to break down man made divisions that stand at crossroads or centre of most misunderstandings and conflicts. It should be a platform for people reciprocating and understanding different faiths and cultures which then let them live in harmony. Communities of diverse faiths should need come together to develop a neighbourhood and its environs. It is crucial that participants lay aside attempts to evangelize with an attitude of exclusive supremacy or dominance. Inter-faith Dialogue therefore, should not be something that takes place officially or academically but rather be an essential part of daily life, with the intermingling of different cultures. Inter-faith Dialogue should be a channel for peace-building based on respect and should always remain an open forum for interaction and discussion.

Amila Perera OMI

Alumni of SLUCSM and Oblate Scholasticate,
Ampitiya, Kandy, Sri Lanka.

Moving School Nepal - 2019

Moving school held in Kathmandu, Nepal from 18th - 23rd November 2019, Kathmandu with the theme "Empowering Youth as Caretaker for Ecological Sustainability, Inter-religious/Cultural Cooperation & Peace in Nepal and Asia". Around the country, 18 IMCS-Nepal members were participated in moving school. The program was organized by Asia Lay Leaders Forum and locally hosted by IMCS Nepal. IMCS Alumni Paul Hwang (Director, ALL Forum), Former IMCS Asia Pacific Coordinator Felicia Dian Ravenska Parera, (Coordinator, ALL Forum) and Prakash Khadka (ICMICA Nepal) attended Moving School as facilitator.



ALL Forum annual Board of Trustee meeting 2019



Annual Board of Trustees meeting of the Asian Lay Leaders Forum was held on 16 December, 2019 at Jesuit Communication center in Philippines. ALL Forum director, Dr. Paul Hwang, presented the report of ALL Forum activities for 2019. Following the report, the board discussed about the future activities Moving School in Vietnam, Thailand, India and AYA/ATF 2020 in Philippines and the administrative changes of the organization. After that, the board discussed about the proposal of IMCS Asia Pacific coordinator being a member of Board of Trustees of ALL Forum. The board unanimously approved the proposal and officially welcomed the IMCS AP coordinator, William Nokrek, to the board.

IMCS Asia Pacific is one of the founding partners of ALL Forum. Since the beginning of the network, IMCS Asia Pacific national movements have received a number of opportunities for participating in Asian Youth Academy (AYA) which is annually organized by ALL Forum focused on themes such as migration, human rights, indigenous communities and theology. ALL Forum has started a "Moving School" programme from 2018. Through the moving schools, it is expected to focus more on local situations which may give the opportunity for participants to have a much grounded and a closer to heart understanding.

SOLIDARITY

Solidarity Statement to the Muslim Community in New Zealand



As one of the most peaceful countries, New Zealand tragically experienced a terrorist attack on 15th March 2019 where 49 people were massacred in 2 mosques in Christchurch. A lone terrorist had attacked the worshippers at the mosques.

This attack stemmed from the recent climate of hate around the world. According to the media reports, the attacker was inspired by similar racist attackers around the world. His inspiration came from hate. Hate that has been propagated by various irresponsible individuals and groups via mass media for selfish and destructive agendas. Their sinister agendas must be exposed and nipped in the bud before it spreads like cancer globally.

IMCS stands in support with the victims' families and the Muslim Community in New Zealand. We stand against any idea of hurting another human being for her/his skin colour, faith, beliefs,

religion, orientation, gender, and ideology. We condemn this cowardly attack on innocent people, most of whom were forced to run away from their countries to escape the same violence and in search of a better life.

We call upon the religious institutions, civil society, governments and fellow human beings around the world to join us in condemning this brutal massacre and we demand to take appropriate measures to engage in education of masses against such fanaticism. We believe we can put an end to blind hate and terrorism. As a global youth movement, we call upon all youth to spread love and acceptance in the pursuit of truth, justice and peace via forming Justice and Truth themed movements or via other creative ways.

Let us choose love to rebuild peace, harmony and solidarity.

Solidarity Message for Netarhat Movement, Jharkhand



AICUF Jharkhand has taken initiative to gather the Indigenous students and participate in the Netarhat movements from 22nd -23rd March 2019 together with the Indigenous

people of Jharkhand. The Netarhat Movement is one of the great movements of the indigenous people of Jharkhand.

This movement started in protest of firing ranges of the indigenous traditional lands 27 years ago. Recently, the Indian Supreme Court has ordered the forced eviction of more than 1,000,000 tribal and other forest-dwelling households from forestlands across 16 states after the government failed to defend a law protecting their rights. It is shocking news for all of us.

In the ILO Convention No. 107 it has been said that whether the indigenous peoples' paper or documents are available or not, the lands which they traditionally use, have their land. The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) has been stated in 3 of Article 26 "States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned." It has been clearly mentioned here that the states will give legal recognition

and protection to the indigenous people, territories and organizations, but the states are dealing with them inversely.

Currently seen that the Indigenous people are migrating from their village to the city for economic development. They are struggling in a new environment in the city with family. They are migrating due to the lack of security in their area, threats of life, political and social pressures and uncertainty. They are forced to leave the area due to political conflicts and adverse circumstances. They are also migrating because of the adverse circumstances of climate change. Indigenous people have to leave somewhere else, due to the domination and oppression of external settlers in their region.

Today, the indigenous people want to recognize their own cultural identity, land rights, territories, natural resources and civil status. Due to increasing conflicts and uncontrolled development activities in their area, they forced to leave their area. Descent movements are increasing due to human rights violations, threats, harassment of women, land grabbing and humiliation.

In the future, we want to see equally beautiful and rich diverse worlds for all, where there will not be so much discrimination among the people.

IMCS stands in support with the AICUF Jharkhand and Indigenous peoples. We stand against any discrimination and Human rights violations with the people. IMCS Pax Romana, Asia Pacific stand for indigenous people in Jharkhand and support Netarhat Field Firing Range protest movement.

IMCS in Solidarity with the People of Sri Lanka



At least 137 people are reported to have been killed and more than 200 injured in explosions at churches and hotels in Sri Lanka. At least six explosions have been reported which involve three churches in Kochchikade, Negombo and Batticaloa were targeted during Easter services. The Shangri La, Cinnamon Grand and Kingsbury hotels, all in Colombo, were also hit (BBC and Aljazeera).

Famous Singer and activist Bhupen Hazarika sings, 'Give me a white man whose blood is white; give me a black man whose blood is white'. We are sure to be seen in a new, civilized and advanced, non-communal, democratic and human world where religion, race and colour will not be obstructed.

IMCS stands in support with the victims' families in Sri Lanka. We stand against any idea of hurting another human being for her/his religion, skin color, faith, beliefs, orientation, gender, and ideology.

We call upon the religious institutions, civil society, governments and fellow human beings around the world to join us in condemning this brutal massacre and we demand to respond appropriately to engage in the education of masses against such fanaticism. We believe we can put an end to blind hate and terrorism. As a global youth movement, we call upon all youth to spread love and acceptance in the pursuit of truth, justice and peace via forming Justice and Truth themed movements or via other creative ways.

Let us choose love to rebuild peace, harmony and solidarity.

PAX ROMANA IMCS WORLD ASSEMBLY

IMCS PAX ROMANA World Assembly held in Lusaka, Zambia



International Movement of Catholic Students- Pax Romana, International Team's World Assembly (WA) was held in Lusaka (Zambia) from July 27 to August 9, 2019, under the theme "Good governance and sustainability: student response to water and sanitation problems". 63 student leaders from 25 countries participated in world assembly. World Assembly is the highest decision-making body of the IMCS and an opportunity to build the capacity of movement leaders of all over the world. From the Asia Pacific region 3 countries (India, Taiwan and Hong Kong) 4 student leaders, 3 Chaplain, and Asia Pacific Coordinator participated in the World Assembly. The objectives of the meeting were (1) to integrate the human rights approach in the analysis and dynamic implementation of OMS and (2) to rethink the structures of the movement so that it responds

effectively to challenges of the time.

The world Assembly divided by the two sessions (1) Training Session and (2) Business session. In the training session aimed to bring the participants to in-depth analysis and reflections on the main global challenges of sustainability. During this session, the facilitators helped participants view the global context with a critical mindset, particularly regarding the implementation of the SDGs. Three levels (country, region, and world) were exposed to the participants' analysis, which was based more on their own experiences than on the official account. From this questioning of progress towards sustainability, the participants noted a clear gap between official rhetoric and social and political realities because biases are introduced into development policies by a lack of contextualization and relevance of the SDGs.

In the Business session, IMCS's activities and actions are evaluated and planned, structures are questioned and created, and leaders are renewed. For the term 2020-2024 IMCS, International Team-



Mr. Ravi Tissera
President
Sri Lanka,
Former IMCS AP Coordinator



Fr. Fung Jee Vui, SJ (Jojo)
Chaplain
Malaysia,
Former IMCS AP Chaplain



Mr. Michael Mmadubueze
Secretary-General
Nigeria

Avocado Mission House Renovation

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Since March 1995, the IMCS Asia Pacific and IYCS Asia have been operating the missions based "Avocado House" and more than 40 years continuous use of the house has resulted to a physically deteriorated condition. The missionaries who continue to live in the almost uninhabitable structure had to cope with a leaking and falling apart roof, broken toilets and bathrooms, dilapidated ceiling, cramped rooms and the oppressive heat of the house especially during the summer months. As a response to this, IMCS and IYCS missionaries had taken the initiative to reach out to friends, well-wishers, alumni, and funding partners to gather resources to turn this situation around. Here are some of the photos showing the drastic change Avocado Mission House has underwent during the renovation process:

Before



After



This renovation wouldn't be possible without the contributions of our beloved friends and partners. Our deepest gratitude goes to

- Bishop Sebastian Francis, Diocese of Penang, Malaysia
- DKA Austria
- Catholics for Family & Life, Philippines.
- Univercity Catholic Chinese Students Association (UCCSA) Taiwan
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- Lawrencina Kwark
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- Sanjay Tamang
- Jerard Tan Cheng Ho
- George Chan
- Jeanne Hon

**We thank National Movement, Funding partners,
IMCS Alumni, Friends, and well-wishers;
We thank all for morally supporting us;
We shall remain grateful and committed.**



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Designed by- Shaan Christopher