

REPORT ON QUIZ: GEO-QUEST

On the occasion of the World Environment Day, June 5, 2020, the department held an online quiz competition named “*Geo-Quest*”. The Department in its endeavour to make young minds aware of the Environment—natural and social attempts to go beyond the textbook curriculum so that academically inquisitive minds can explore their knowledge and awareness on the world we live in had organized this quiz contest. The quiz targeted two groups—School students from standard IX to XII and the second one was open to the academia in general.

The Department used Google Forms to conduct the quiz. There was a limited time frame from 10 in the morning to 10.30 in the night. There had been no registration fees and certificates were provided to the successful participants.

The responses were truly overwhelming. In the school level quiz there were 131 participants. In the general quiz there were 520 participants—making a total of 651 participants overall.

In the school level quiz there were participants throughout West Bengal, India and abroad. We received two participants from East Timor and Dubai. These schools include Kendriya Vidyalaya, Loreto House, Loreto Day School Sealdah, Marias Day School, Don Bosco School Park Circus, Julien Day School Ganganagar, Patha Bhavan Dankuni, Don Bosco School Bandel, St. John Diocesan Girls' H. S School, Jodhpur Park Boys, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Sri Aurobindo Institute of Education, St. Lawrence High School, Hariyana Vidya Mandir, Falakata Girls' High School, Gokhale Memorial Girls' School, National Model High School, Aditya Academy Secondary, Burdwan C.M.S. High School, St. Xavier's School, Burdwan, Burdwan Town School, East West Model School along with several other Government and Government aided schools across West Bengal. Students from these schools enthusiastically participated in the quiz and showed great interest in the humble academic endeavour of the department. We have been successfully reached out to almost all the 23 districts of West Bengal and other important cities of India as participants from all these places had taken the quiz.

The quiz open to the general environment enthusiasts included school, college and university faculties, under graduate and post graduate students from varied disciplines along with Geography, M.Phil. and Ph.D. research scholars and several other professionals. There had been as many as 70 school and college and university faculties; 50 participants from various other professionals and 400 under graduate and post graduate students including the students of the Geography Department, St. Xavier's College, Burdwan; along with M.Phil. and Ph.D. research scholars.

These participants belong to premier and reputed colleges and universities— Asutosh College, Gokhale Memorial Girl's College Kolkata, Lady Brabourne College, Loreto College, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, Maulana Azad College, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, IRDM Faculty Center, Narendrapur, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta,

Chandernagar College, Jadavpur University, Presidency University, Kolkata, University of Calcutta, Vidyasagar University, Adamas University, Amity University Kolkata, Diamond Harbour Women's University, University of Kalyani, The University of Burdwan, Visva Bharati, Kazi Nazrul University, Netaji Subhas Open University, West Bengal State University, WBUTTEPA, North Bengal University, Bankura University, Jawaharlal Nehru University, IIT Delhi, IIT Guwahati, Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS), Barathiyar University, MGSU Bikaner, Guru Ghasidas University, University of Mumbai, Mohanlal Sukhodia University, Udaipur, Central University of Jammu, Vellore Institute of Technology, Aligarh Muslim University, Madras Christian College, JIS College of Engineering, Future Institute of engineering and Management, Central University of Jharkhand, DAV College, Kanpur Maharshi Dayanand University, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology, Seacom Skill University, KIIT University and several colleges under each of these Universities.

All the participants could successfully complete the quiz and E-certificates were distributed by June 10, 2020. The participant's feedback was very encouraging.

Reaching out to the pan Indian academia through this environmental knowledge based quiz contest is indeed a great achievement for the Department of Geography, St. Xavier's College, Burdwan. It did leave remarkable signature of academic pursuit which is a continuous responsibility of the Department.

REPORT ON ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION: GEO-LIT

The most active, creative young generation remained confined to four walls during the COVID-19 lockdown. In order to seek free flow of thoughts, imagination and creativity, The Department of Geography, St. Xavier's College, Burdwan provided a platform where creative articulation in form of essay confluences with sound environmental awareness. It intended to bring out such latent thoughts to reality and seek ideas from budding Geographers to combat the fight against COVID-19 amidst home confinement. Through this endeavour the Department showcased its ever encouraging objective to urge young minds to put their thoughts into words.

The essay writing competition was titled "**Geo-Lit**". This competition was held in three tiers—School level (standard IX-XII of any stream); Under Graduate Level having Geography Honours as well as General and Post Graduate students of Geography. Each category had five choices of exclusive topics for writing the essay. These topics were related to Environmental Geography pertaining to the bio-hazard COVID-19. Geo-Lit had a focal theme: **COVID-19—Images of the Pandemic: A Geo – Environmental Synthesis**. There were specific rules set up for the essay contest. There was also rigorous anti-plagiarism regulation. Evaluation of the essay was done in two tiers—primary screening on the basis of plagiarism check performed by software named Plagiarism Checker X. More than 10% of similarity found with the internet sources were disqualified for further evaluation. In the second tier of evaluation there were specific and objective criteria with relevant weightages. These judging criteria are as follows:

Sl. No.	CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTAGE OF GRADES
1	Originality	Individual creativity, opinion	5
2	Adherence to Focal Theme	Essay should justify the Focal Theme	3
3	Adherence to Sub Theme	Essay should justify the Theme of the Topic	4
4	Adherence to Word Limit	Whether the Essay is written within the word limit or not	2
5	Organization and Structure	Essay should be well structured-must have an introduction, an elaborate description and analysis along with appropriate concluding remarks. Marks may be deducted for abrupt beginning and end. The introduction, main description/analysis and conclusion must be related.	6
6	Appropriate Vocabulary	Articulation of words/sentences should justify the opinion expressed	5
7	Aesthetic Vocabulary	Articulation of effective and unconventional words/sentences should be used.	5
8	Content	Appropriate Description, analysis and original interpretation. Vocabulary. Appreciation if quotations are used with proper citation	10
9	Comprehensiveness	Whether the text is understandable or not; self-explanatory text.	7
10	Citation and referencing	Whether quotations are properly cited and referred or not (APA style)	3
TOTAL			50

Each entry received was codified for blind-review. The essays were sent to five evaluators who held the position of Ph.D. research scholars, College teachers and School teachers in premier institutes of India.

Top three participants from each category were given Certificate of Merit, while all other participants were given Certificate of Participation for showing their interest in the essay writing competition. The result of the essay writing competition is as follows:

Rank	Code	Name	Name of College/ Institute/ University
POST GRADUATION LEVEL			
1.	PG_GEO_LIT_12	Prakash Singh	Jawaharlal Nehru University
2.	PG_GEO_LIT_08	Debanjana Ghosh	University of Delhi
3.	PG_GEO_LIT_09	Paurush Omar	University of Delhi
UNDER GRADUATION LEVEL			
1.	UG_GEO_LIT_30	Atreyee Pal	Gokhale Memorial Girls' College
2.	UG_GEO_LIT_33	Ananya Barman	Chandernagore Government College
3.	UG_GEO_LIT_20	Rickta Roy	Lady Brabourne College
	UG_GEO_LIT_02	Debarati Roy	Presidency University
	UG_GEO_LIT_22	Riyanka Saha	Gopal Chandra Memorial College of Education
SCHOOL LEVEL			
1.	SC_GEO_LIT_02	Swastika Biswas	St. Joseph's Convent, Chandannagar
2.	SC_GEO_LIT_04	Saiesha Barera	Eicher School Faridabad

Although the participants for the Essay were not very high, (the total registration for essay contest was 50) and some of them were disqualified for plagiarism issue, as many as 26 essays were finalized for the evaluation. However, it is an encouraging fact that the participants were from eminent institutes throughout almost all the 23 districts of West Bengal and also major cities of India. Thus the target of reaching out of the larger section of the academia and letting them know about the interesting academic programmes of the Department of Geography, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata was successfully met.



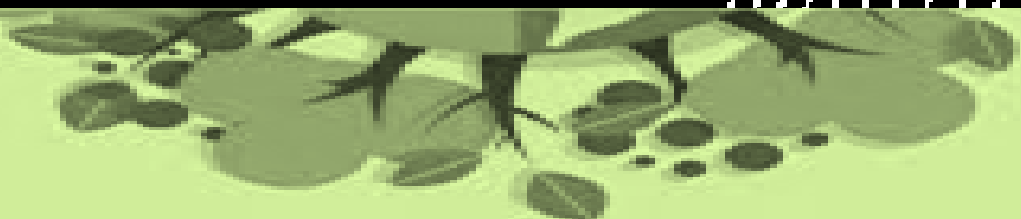
**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY,
ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, BURDWAN**

On the occasion of
"World Environment Day"

Organizes

Annual
Online Essay, Quiz
& Photography
Competition

5th June, 2020





About the College

St. Xavier's College, Burdwan is an educational endeavour of Jesuits of Kolkata Province of the Society of Jesus. It is a second college of Jesuits of Calcutta beside St. Xavier's College Kolkata. The college started its journey from 2014 . The college is affiliated to The University of Burdwan offering UG and PG courses in Science , Arts, Commerce. Following the legacy of St. Francis Xavier, SXCB adopts the strategy of being a voice to the voiceless. SXCB becomes the channel of God's love and care.

About the Department

The Department of Geography started blooming from 2014 -15 academic session. It offers B.A. and B.Sc. Honours courses in Geography. The Department currently runs through fully equipped laboratory, computer room for RS & GIS. Since 2015, the Department had organized seminar talks and lectures, Workshops, Inter college poster competition on various topics of Physical and Human Geography.

List of Online Competitions

1. **Geo – Lit:** *An Online Essay Competition*
2. **Geo – Quest:** *An Online Quiz Competition*
3. **Geo –Vista:** *An Online Photography Competition*

'Geo –Lit': An Essay Competition



Focal Theme

COVID-19—IMAGES OF THE PANDEMIC: A GEO –ENVIRONMENTAL SYNTHESIS

The pandemic COVID 19 is all pervasive and affecting human community from all walks of life. The most active, creative young generation are confined to four walls. In order to seek free flow of thoughts, imagination and creativity, The Department of Geography, St. Xavier's College, Burdwan provides a platform where creative articulation in form of essay confluences with sound environmental awareness. It intends to bring out such latent thoughts to reality and seek ideas from budding Geographers to combat the fight against COVID 19 amidst home confinement. Through this endeavour the Department showcases its ever encouraging objective to urge young minds to put thoughts into words.

Target participants

- Standard IX-XII school students.
- Any Student pursuing Geography Honours & General.
- Any Student pursuing Geography at Post-Graduation.



Topics for Essay

Category - School Students (CODE SS01)

- SS0101: Experiences during Bio-hazard COVID-19
- SS0102: Learning during pandemic: the Gaps and the Advantages
- SS0103: Life After Lockdown: Geographical Adaption in the 'New Normal'
- SS0104: Geographical Implications of Digital Divide during Lockdown due to COVID 19
- SS0105: COVID 19 in SAARC Region—A Geographical Probe

Category - College Students: (CODE UG02)

- UG0201: Biohazard Management focusing on COVID -19 Issues, Challenges, Potential Mitigation Strategies
- UG0202: Environmental Implications of COVID -19
- UG0203: Geographer's Role in Environmental and Disaster Management: Cases from corona
- UG0204: Geography and Migration: lessons from corona.
- UG0205: Changing Ecology of urban spaces during COVID -19

Category - Post-Graduation (CODE PG03)

- PG0301: Spatial Dimension of COVID -19: Morbidity and mortality differentials
- PG0302: Changing Everyday Geographies: Life in time of corona
- PG0303: Efficacies of COVID -19 Lockdown: Socio-spatial Implications
- PG0304: Virtual Space and digital footprints—Prospects and problems during and after COVID -19 lockdown
- PG0305: COVID 19 and disease ecology



- Essay to be submitted on any one topic under each category
- Only one entry per participant is allowed
- Only single author entries are to be submitted. Co-authored essays will not be accepted
- All entries must be original and unpublished. Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarized entries over 10-12% similarity shall be disqualified
- All entries must be digitally typed in MS Word using Times New Roman, Size 12, Line spacing 1.5; within 1000-1500 words excluding the heading, name and institutional affiliation of the participants
- Entries can be in **English** or **Bengali**. However, topics will remain the same for both. Participants opting for Bengali version must use Avro keyboard while writing in the word. First person may be used. Appropriate citation and referencing (APA style) are mandatory
- Title of the essay must be from the list of topics mentioned. Entries must include a cover page indicating Title of the Essay and Code of the Essay, Name of the Author, Affiliation Class/Semester; Name of the Institution; E-mail ID

Instructions



Registration and Participation Fee:

No participation Fee will be charged.
Participants must enrol themselves through Google Forms before submission.

School Students(IX – XII):

<https://forms.gle/FYFpR5pGopMZYrNj6>

UG Students: <https://forms.gle/EbtPHJLo685MviQw9>

PG Students: <https://forms.gle/SPRApcTmXsbmjouF7>

Important Dates

Starting date of Submission: **05.06.2020**

Last date of Submission: **10.06.2020**

Award:

Top 60 entries including all three categories shall be given E-participation certificates—top 20 entries from each category

Special E – certificates will be given to the top 3 winners from each category.

All entries must be sent at:
geographia.scxb@gmail.com

Judging Criteria

Originality and innovation, Writing Skill, Appropriate Grammar and good vocabulary,
Decision of the organizers and the adjudicators is final and binding,

'Geo-Quest': The Quiz Competition



It is often said that the world is reeling under the crisis of environmental degradation. The World Environmental Day is celebrated to pledge for a serene, green and harmonious Earth for the days ahead. The Department of Geography, St. Xavier's College, Burdwan in its endeavour to make young minds aware of the Environment—natural and social attempts to go beyond the textbook curriculum so that academically inquisitive minds can explore their knowledge and awareness on the world we live in. Geo-Quest : An online quiz contest is organized in this regard. It's time to see if you can find your grey amidst the blues and hues.

Target Participants

- **Category 1:** Standard IX-XII school students (Any Stream)
- **Category 2:** Anyone interested from public

Instructions

- Enroll and Register through the following links to take the Quiz.
Category 1: <https://forms.gle/mq7SCCJsgVs9KYY49>
Category 2: <https://forms.gle/PuDi7J1EAFRtngPp9>
- The Quiz link will be open from 10:00 am and closes at 10:00 pm (IST) on **05.06.2020**. E-Certificates will be given to the participants securing more than 50%. E –certificates will be given after 48 hours from the closing time. **No Registration Fee** is required.

‘Geo-Vista’: The Photography Competition



Highlighting the environmental changes and terrible impacts being wrought on our planet by us, the competition celebrates humanity's innate ability to survive and innovate, lending hope to us all that we can overcome challenges to live sustainably. The competition supports the urgent calls to action of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and recognizes the intricate relationship of nature and society and the effort from all sectors needed to tackle the defining issues of this time. We encourage entries that are contemporary, creative, resonant, relevant, original and beautiful. At the same time we expect images, which will inspire people around to start taking care of our environment and share the responsibility for sustainability.

Target Participants

The competition is open to all. However, the students are mainly encouraged to participate.



Instructions

- All entrants must register and submit their photographs through the following link <https://forms.gle/WYFJghfnBafF3keb9> to participate at this competition. Photographs are also to be mailed to geographia.scxb@gmail.com
- Photographs clicked on any device, should be not be larger than 5MB JPEG files.
- Participants must add a significant caption related to the theme – ***'Man & Environment Relationship'***.
- **No Registration Fee** is required.

Award

E- Certificates will be given to 50 shortlisted participants and top 3 winners. E-certificates will be given after 48 hours from the closing time. There are no cash alternatives available for winners.

Important Dates: The link for registration and submission remains open till **07.06.2020 till 10:00 pm (IST)**.

Judging Criteria

Originality and innovation, Suitability of the caption.
Decision of the organizers and the adjudicators is final and binding,



St. Xavier's College, Burdwan
A Jesuit Institution
{Affiliated to The University of Burdwan}

Patron:

Rev. Fr. Dr. G. Paul Arockiam S.J (Principal)
Rev. Fr. Jude Sahaya S.J. (Vice – Principal)

Advisory Group:

Dr. M. Senthil Kumar (Academic Coordinator)
and All Heads of the Departments

Organizers:

Saurav Sengupta (HOD),
Dr. Anuradha Mukherjee

Member of the Working Committee:

Dr. Susmita Bhowmick
Souvik Mallick, Asmita Bhattacharjee, Priya Choudhury

For any query please email geographia.sxcb@gmail.com



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