LIGHT ETERNAL
Akansha Agrawal

Akansha joined the newly constituted Bachelor of Vocation (B.Voc) course in the academic year 2014-2015. As destiny would have it she could not complete the year! Taken away from us on February 24, 2015 after bravely fighting complications from surgery after a fall, she leaves us with just memories.

Akansha overcame her physical disability with determination and a vision for a bright future. Full of life, the classroom was her forum to express herself. She dazzled her batch mates with her confidence and above all her grit. Happy to take the mike and say thank you to a visiting speaker she even had her portrait penned by a cartoonist!

Eager to participate in every activity St. Xavier's had to offer, she made it to seminars and even a field trip to the heritage St. Thomas’ cathedral and St. Andrew's Kirk!

May she rest in Peace.

Jose Pereira

Alumnus Jose Pereira was a Professor Emeritus of Theology at the Fordham University in New York. He was also a Research Associate in the History of Indian Art at the American Academy of Benares in Varanasi. His PhD thesis (1958) was in History on The Influence of Saivism on the Rock Temples of the Deccan and the Konkan. He studied at the Heras Institute under his guides, Fr Henry Heras, Dr. B. G. Gokhale and Dr. L B Kenny.

Pereira authored several books such as ‘Monolithic Jinas: The iconography of the Jain Temple of Ellora’ (1977) and ‘Churches of Goa’ (2002). He was well known for his fresco paintings and had a command over no less than 13 languages, Konkani being one of them.

He was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2012.

Hanumant Mohite

Mr. Mohite, fondly remembered as ‘Mohite Kaka’, served as a watchman for 12 years. He was handpicked by Father Frazer from among several other applicants and took on the responsibility to look out for others who could do the job as well as him. He was born and brought up in Mumbai and visited his village in Sangli once a year – this was the only holiday he took from work. He was extremely punctual; he would reach college half an hour before the designated time, even on Sundays!

He enjoyed coming to college because of the faculty and students, and never complained. He was very particular and never allowed his son Yogendra to bunk college either. He was extremely grateful to have worked, educated his son and seen his son work here. He greatly admired Fr. Frazer who was a constant support when he was in the hospital.

He observed that college had changed over time – Malhar was attracting larger crowds and he had to work two shifts instead of one on the three days of the fest. He was happy to see the canteen improve. Mr. Mohite was a sensitive soul and made sure that the blind students always had a place to sit during break time.

Although the day to day interaction we all had with Mohite Kaka was just his kind reminder to wear our ID cards, the impact he left on all of us was far more profound.