

Report on students participation in activities and Competitions conducted during Christmas and Onam at LCSS

Loyola College of Social Sciences, known as a college with a difference, was established at by Jesuits, is committed to excellence in education with social justice. The College hence, focuses on developing professionally and globally competent excellent citizens who are capable of doing social service, in tandem with its programme outcome. Every activity on Campus Loyola emerges from on the Engaged Competence Enhancement Paradigm. Loyola's distinctive institutional educational strategy involves the application of PIMER - Planning, Implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting – approach for every program. Besides academics, the students' progression towards becoming proactive, resourceful and professional is enhanced via a variety of cultural events where students take leadership and participative roles. Typically besides the college union activities Loyola gives much importance in celebrating every year, our cultural heritage and festivals - Onam and Christmas. These celebrations organised and monitored by the students on campus, becomes a productive and memorable experience for each Loyolite. Students and faculty jointly plan and organise the activities and arrangements for the cultural programs and competitions (as in the case of Onam) and at the end evaluate to reflect on how better they could have executed the events.

Every year, Christmas is a time when Loyola looks 'the most beautiful'. Cultural events, decorations and the grand feast all prepared painstakingly by the students generates tremendous enthusiasm, team-spirit and bonhomie among the Loyolites. Cultural events include carol singing, nativity scenes, pantomimes and dance colours the festivities. The students total involve either in organizing or in participating in these activities; this enables them to develop life skills – communication, team working, conflict resolution, negotiation, consensus-building, etc. as well as it give them a hands on experience in programme management.



Carols at Amour 2020: Staff and Students sign in Chorus



Ladies Hostellers 'shake a bone' firing up the culturals; Amour 2020



A skit highlighting the plight of our NRIs during COVID



Santa Rocks



Milagro 2018 Christmas performance

Feliz Navidad 2020, Yuletide 2016, Advent 2017



The Advent Christmas 2018



Welcoming the L Radhakrishnan IAS Christmas 2016



Yuletide starts



Santa arrives and in a jovial company, Christmas 2016



Gift Exchange 2017





Onam Celebrations

Onam is an annual harvest festival to the state of Kerala. A major annual event for Keralites, it is the official festival of the state and includes a spectrum of cultural events. Drawing from legends, Onam commemorates King Mahabali banishment from the earth Vamana, and the re-emergence of justice. During Onam, traditional cultural events ‘*thiruvathira*’, ‘*athapookkalam*’ and ‘competitions’ like *uriyadi*, *vadamvali*, *pottujkuthal* are conducted. Students are divided into teams and native competitions are conducted’.

Onam Competitions 2019- 2020



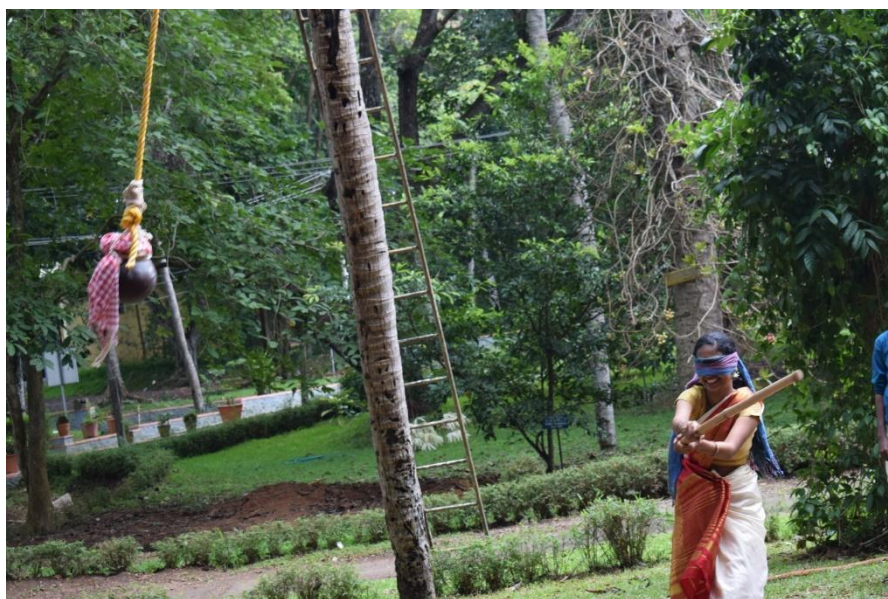
Kaserakali (Musical Chair)



Thalayinathallu (Pillow Fight)



Sundarikku Pottuthodal ...the winner Fr Saji S J (2017 -18)



Uriyadi



Onam Competitions 2017-18



Chakkilottam - Onam 2016



vadamvali 2016- 2017 - Onam



Kaserakali - by faculty members Onam 2016

The vital fact is that, Loyola College of Social sciences entertains cultural events and competitions for the purpose of revisiting Kerala's heritage and culture. The Campus community participates in these programs in the entirety with the student community taking lead in hosting the competitions and the *Ona-sadya*(feast) served with 21 items with at least 3 payasams.

Conclusion

Campus Loyola promotes pluralism and revisits the wisdom inherent in our heritage and culture. We are keen to keep those universal values of justice, equality, equity, sustainability, frugality, love and brotherhood essentially the essence of the celebrations. Especially occasions such as Onam and Christmas, provide the students not only to organise, but also motivate our stakeholders as well as occasion them to to express their talents. The evaluation at the end of the exercise is also an opportunity to reflect on how much their participation had contributed in improving their confidence and competency.