

**Loyola College (Autonomous),
Chennai – 600 034.**

**Report on Independence Day Celebrations
15th August 2017**

Independence Day is celebrated with great enthusiasm and respect at Loyola College. This year's ceremony started at 7:50 am in the Quadrangle Lawn with a prayer song by the college choir.



Chief Guest Dr. Albin Fleming & Prof. Robert Bellarmine being welcomed by
Ref. Dr. Maria Packiam, SJ, NCC Officers & Officials.

The retiring staff members of the college were invited as dignitaries to unfurl the flag and to take the guard of honour. They were welcomed by NCC Officers Capt. Simon Aju Sudhakar, NCC (ARMY), S. Lt. Dr. Johm Maria Xavier NCC (NAVY), F.Or. Dr. M. Chandrashekar, NCC (AIR WING), College Officials and also by the college brass band.



Prayer Song by College Choir

The Independence Day celebrations began with invoking the blessings of Lord Almighty with a blissful prayer song by the College Choir. All the officials, professors, NCC Cadets, NSS Office Bearers, Loyola Brass Band members, Class Representatives and others present for the ceremony were welcomed by Prof. S. Prasanna Kumar, Dean of Students (Shift – II). Dr. Albin Fleming, Chief Guest and Prof. Robert Bellarmine, Guest of Honour who are retiring this

academic year received the Guard of Honour from the NCC cadets before hoisting the national flag.



Chief Guest and Guest of Honour receiving the Guard of Honour



Chief Guest Dr. Albin Fleming Hoisting the National Flag

Every year to commemorate the sovereignty of our nation, it was a ritual that is followed in the college to unfurl the national flag during the Independence Day Celebrations. This year, the honour to hoist the flag was given to the chief guest Dr. Albin Fleming, the senior most staff of the college. The flower petals were offered as a mark of joy and respect which turned out to be a blessing on this occasion. The members of the Loyola Brass Band performed the patriotic Vandemataram to honour the National Flag.



Loyola Brass Band performing Vandemataram

The Chief Guest and the guest of honour were felicitated during the 71st Independence Day Celebration. Rev. Dr. Maria Packiam, Director, PULCS felicitated the Chief Guest Dr. Albin Fleming, Former Head, Department of Advanced Zoology and the Guest of Honour Prof. Robert Bellarmine, Head, Dept. of Sociology for their invaluable efforts rendered to the college. Rev. Dr. Maria Packiam, Director, PULCS was felicitated by Prof. S. Prasanna Kumar, Dean of Students (Shift – II), Dr. Robert Selvam, Vice Principal (Shift-2) was felicitated by Dr. Carol, Dean of Women Students (Shift – II), Dean of Arts Prof. Edward Sudhakar was felicitated by Dr. Charles Robert Kenneth (Programme Officer NSS).



Rev. Dr. Maria Packiam, SJ Felicitating Dr. Albin Fleming



Rev. Dr. Maria Packiam, SJ Felicitating Prof. Robert Bellarmine



Prof. S. Prasanna Kumar felicitating Rev. Dr. Maria Packiam, SJ



Dr. Carol felicitating Dr. Robert Selvam



Dr. Charles Robert Kenneth felicitating Prof. Edward Sudhakar

INDEPENDENCE DAY PLEDGE:

The Pledge was led by Prof. S. Prasanna Kumar, Dean of Students (Shift – II). The pledge was repeated by all the cadets of all wings of NCC, office bearers of NSS, office bearers of F.O.P and the class representatives of the College.

INDEPENDENCE DAY MESSAGE:

A special Independence Day message was given by Prof. Robert Bellarmine, Head, Dept. of Sociology. He said that Freedom is a multidimensional phenomenon. According to him, we have definitely obtained political freedom and sovereignty, but yet to achieve the economic, social, psychological and other forms of freedom that we so require for dignified human existence. It looks as though we cannot even choose the food we want to eat today. He added that we should not lose hope and be discouraged. We have many reasons to be proud of India. Known as the land of Gautama Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi, preaching and practicing Non-violence as the way of life; characterized by more than 28 states, 1618 languages, 6400 castes and at least 6 major religions and ethnic groups and more than 29 major festivals, India represents a very rich cultural heritage and unity in the midst of diversity. He concluded that being righteous implies responsibility and duty. We are all children of the one and the same God, and therefore, absolutely equal. An eye for an eye will make the whole world blind. More importantly, he quoted from the Holy Bible, “Give the best you have, and the best will come back to you”.



Prof. Robert Bellarmine Delivering Independence Day Message



Rev. Dr. Maria Packiam felicitating the gathering

Rev. Dr. Maria Packiam, Director, PULCS gave an inspiring speech to all the cadets, office bearers, volunteers, class representatives and to all who gathered for the independence day celebrations. He spoke that every individual should bring unity and integration among themselves and ensure that they bring a change in others.

Presentation of Gifts:

To commemorate the 71st Independence Day and to honour the elite class of the nation, who put themselves forward to serve the country and the college were felicitated on the stage. Chief Guest Dr. Albin Fleming, Former Head, Department of Advanced Zoology presented gifts to Capt. Simon Aju Sudhakar (NCC Army), Sub Lt. Dr. Jhon Maria Xavier (NCC Navy), and to Dr.M. Chandrashakar (NCC Air Wing).



Dr. Albin Fleming Felicitating Capt. Simon Aju Sudhakar



Dr. Albin Fleming Felicitating S/L. Dr. John Maria Xavier



Dr. Albin Fleming Felicitating F.Offr. Dr. M. Chandrasekar

The Guest of Honour Prof. Robert Bellarmine presented the gifts to Dr. Charles Robert Kenneth, Program Officer (NSS), Prof. Ramkumar, Club Faculty Advisor, Friends of Police, Dr. Vanitha, Club Faculty Advisor, Friends of Police and Dr. M. Raja, Club Faculty Advisor, Loyola Brass Band to appreciate them for their services towards the nation and organising programs for the betterment and development of the student community.



Prof. Robert Bellarmine felicitating Dr. Charles Robert Kenneth



Prof. Robert Bellarmine felicitating Dr. Vanitha



Prof. Robert Bellarmine felicitating Prof. Ramkumar



Prof. Robert Bellarmine felicitating Dr. M. Raja

VOTE OF THANKS

The Dean of Women Students (Shift – II), Dr. D. Carol thanked the management, the chief guest, the guest of honour, cadets of NCC, office bearers of NSS, FOP and the student volunteers for their presence and contribution. The programme was concluded with the National Anthem played by the Loyola Brass Band.



Dr. D. Carol, Dean of Women Students (Shift II) proposes vote of thanks

