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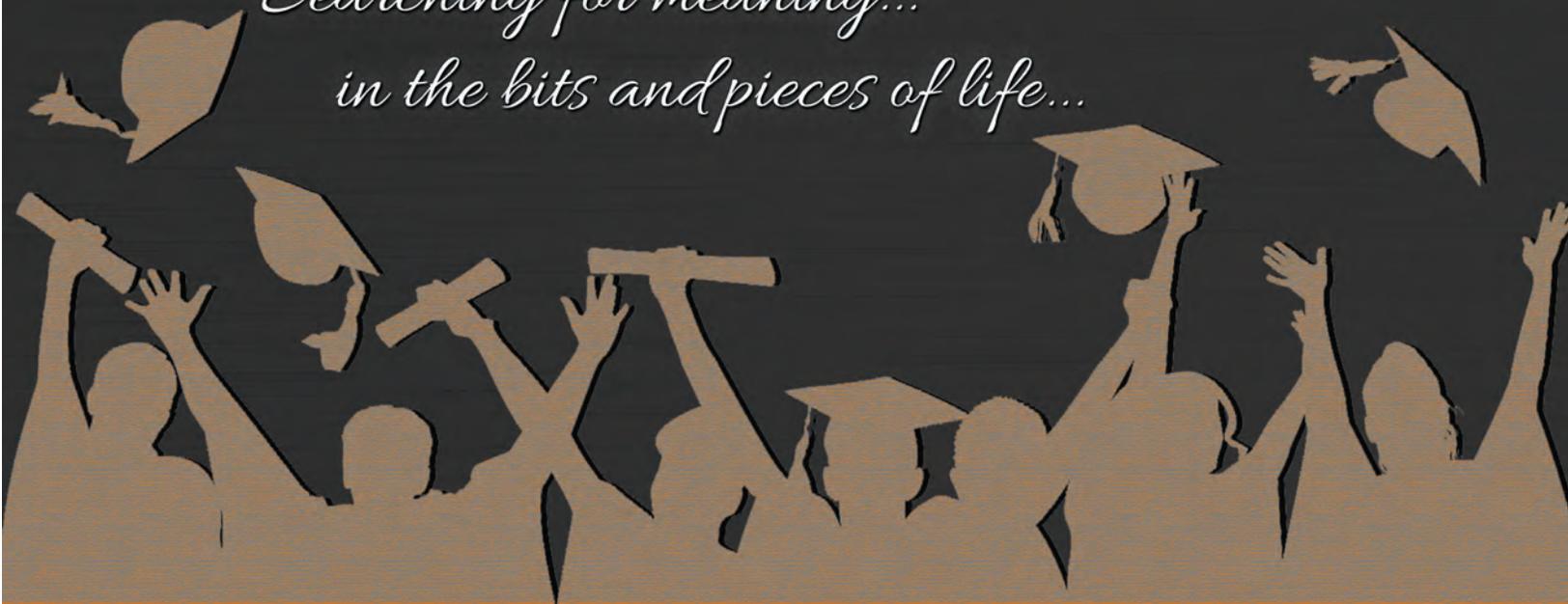
A newsletter for Don Bosco family, alumni and friends

# 9<sup>th</sup> Convocation

5 OCTOBER 2020

Assam Don Bosco University  
Guwahati, Assam, India

*Searching for meaning...  
in the bits and pieces of life...*



## Message from the Chancellor

Dear Friends,

*It is a great honour and pleasure for me to write this message on the Ninth Convocation of Assam Don Bosco University. The biggest difference regarding the annual convocation of this year is that this memorable and mega event of the University has turned Virtual or Online. And I am sure that it will truly be a dream-come-true event for everyone. Even as the world is still reeling under the pressure of Covid-19, it is fitting that we carry on with our normal activities and events, particularly in the sphere of personal development, even though it may only be online at the moment.*

*My dear students, I am truly proud of you. You have persevered and scaled great heights and have reached a milestone through sweat, perspiration, focus and hard work, through the investment of mind and much finance and today you have become someone in life and in society.*

*Accept my heartiest congratulations to everyone of you, especially those of you who are graduating today. We sincerely hope that you will contribute significantly and positively to your family, the society in which you live, to the people around especially the poor and the marginalised and ultimately make a small or big contribution to make this world a better place.*

*Everyone of you can do it as a Bosconian. You are a Bosconian and once a Bosconian, you are always a Bosconian. Let the people around you see the difference in quality and professionalism of a Bosconian in your behaviour and in everything that you do.*

*It is unfortunate that an invisible virus has been the centre of our attention for the last few months. These are difficult times. Some of our dear ones and friends have succumbed to this viral disease; many are still suffering. This is truly a major world crisis. But as every crisis presents us suffering and challenging moments, it also presents us opportunity. An opportunity to re-build our world with compassion, integrity and justice. Perhaps we can never go back to what was normal. We may have to re-define what normal is; and hope for a new normal.*

*Some of us were tested for coronavirus, and the results were either positive or negative. In the same way, if we were tested for other viruses like egoism, superiority complex, corruption, lust, indifference, discrimination, etc., do we hope our results to be positive or negative? There have been organizations – both Governmental and non Governmental - which are fighting the spread of big crisis like coronavirus. But what about our other smaller crises and other viruses of social and moral nature ? These seem to pose a greater threat and danger to our world and society today and to our social*



*upliftment. The slow death and degradation of moral, ethical, social and religious values are certainly a reality today – both in private and public spheres.*

*Even as many of us are calling for a new “normal,” shouldn’t we give a thought to build a world based on spiritual and human values.*

*Dear Friends, why do I say this? A university is not merely a forum for offering or receiving degrees. True, a university has to do this – to award degrees. But if it were only to offer academic degrees and no values, our aim becomes too narrow and we have failed in our objective of making you the finest human beings that you are meant to be. Strive to be a man or a woman of high intelligence, coupled with noble values and character and you will certainly contribute much to the world. Today, a Convocation Day, is a good day for us to think and reflect upon our impact on this world and on the society.*

*I take this opportunity to congratulate the Vice Chancellor of the University, Fr. Dr. Stephen Mavelly along with all Salesians and religious personnel, the faculty, support staff and the entire team for their achievements. I thank the parents and guardians, sponsors, well-wishers and all those who support our dreams. Thank you for making our dreams into reality. May God bless you and your families.*

*I congratulate once again all who are graduating today, and wish them God’s abundant blessings.*

*May God bless you all.*

*Thank you.*

**- Fr Januarius S. Sangma SDB  
Chancellor & Salesian Provincial**

## Message from the Vice Chancellor

*My dear Graduates of 2020...*

*Welcome to the University, to Don Bosco University! Welcome to a novel way of holding our Convocation, as a webcast over YouTube! And yet, in spite of the novelty of it all, it feels so good that we have reached this stage where over 1100 of you are graduating!*

*It is a huge worldwide audience we have this evening, unlike at our normal convocations! Holding this convocation online has given you the added advantage that each one of you is surrounded by your loved ones, adding to the joy of this occasion. Let me extend a very warm welcome to every one of you.*

*A very special word of welcome to our graduates from overseas, from our Centre for Online and Distance Education – DBU Global. Over 200 of you from 45 or so countries! We are so glad that you too can attend this convocation with your family and friends, unlike when we have it here on campus.*

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*Right at the beginning of this pandemic, when our lives started falling apart, there is one resolve, one mantra that we, all of us at the University, arrived at; and it was - whatever happens to us and to the world around us, you, our students, must come out the winners!*

*With that guiding beacon – that you, our students, must come out the winners – all the rest fell into place: the online classes, the assignments, the personal chats, the mock exams, mentors available to guide you almost 24 hours a day... and finally, the fully online, individualized examinations with a mentor standing by to help, the rescheduling of examination slots when the internet failed you... That story is too long to go into details now...*

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*But there you are now beaming with joy, happy that you have made it. That joy is well deserved – go out and celebrate with your family and friends! Celebrate because you have come out winners... Celebrate because your resilience has won the day... Celebrate your new skills of blended learning... Celebrate because you have graduated into life-long learners now... Celebrate, most of all, because this pandemic has given you a wealth of new insights: insights into an inner depth you never thought you had, insights into the hidden resources that energized you, insights into the joys and challenges of true intimacy, insights into an awareness that wrestling with pain is in the order of nature, insights into the inner serenity that comes with deep discernment and acceptance...*

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*And... what shall I wish you today? Well, let me put it this way: with the Corona Pandemic throwing our lives out of gear, we are living through extraordinary times. Times such as these keep testing our strength, our resolve, our peace of mind... They test our resilience... They call on every physical, mental and spiritual gifts at our disposal - to fight, to overcome, to survive, and then, to flourish once again, stronger for the experience...*



*It is against this backdrop that our theme for this academic year has been framed: 'Searching for meaning... in the bits and pieces of life'. This pandemic keeps stripping away most of our illusions about what is 'normal'. It picks relentlessly at the core of our old certainties about life and death, about self and the other...*

*More than ever before, life seems to be taking us to places where we do not or did not want to go –None of us knows what the next change is going to be... We do not know what events await us that will shake us and change the tenor of our lives... We do not know either what unexpected opportunities are just around the corner... But we do know that the road ahead offers us a large canvass to work on, replete with infinite possibilities and choices for years to come!*

*The search for meaning suddenly looms large on our horizon – it remains the one resilient crutch that will see us through it all. As we do so, Viktor Frankl, the originator of 'Logotherapy', tells us in his inimitable style: "Everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms – the freedom to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way."*

*The search for meaning... the call to adopt the right attitude... the challenge to walk your own unique path... All these call for the courage to pick up the pieces, the tenacity to navigate through the sea of challenges and pitfalls, the resolve to battle lethargy and listlessness, and the determination to walk on with changed perceptions and changed selves... THAT is the continuing search for meaning in the bits and pieces of life, one day at a time!*

*As you traverse that road ahead, uniquely your own, be passionate about what you do, focus on reaching your destination, treat everyone and everything with respect and compassion, undergird your decisions with the values you have learnt here.*

*Let me wish you an abundance of God's blessings as you seek and search for that unique niche of your own. And when you find that, embrace it with all the passion at your command! Your future is in your hands...*

*As the motto emblazoned on our coat-of-arms says, 'Carpe Diem! Seize the Day!'*

*Jai Hind! ... and, God Bless us all!*

**- Fr Stephen Mavelly  
Rector & Vice-Chancellor**

## Reminiscences from the Gold Medalists

**Boqhito K. Chishi**

*Winner - Chancellor's Gold Medal*

My life at Assam Don Bosco University had been an extraordinary and filled with moments I will cherish for a lifetime. This wonderful place was a perfect platform that helped me to discover the better version of myself in the best possible way by exploring my inner potentials with ample opportunities and privileges.

DBU was my home far away from home for two years and I could call it my own because of what it had offered me. The community here consisted of people from different ethnicity, all coming together for a common purpose, which is to build a society of equality through quality education. The enriching environment helped me to develop a very inclusive outlook towards our society without any boundaries or division.

I am much honored and glad to receive this prestigious "Chancellor's Award" and I can strongly say that it is not just an award of an individual drive but an outcome of genuine and quality education the university imparted on us. This acknowledgement is a recognition of the hard work of my respected faculties who selflessly invested in us to make us who we are today. So, at the end of the day this is an award that truly shows that all of us are truly winners today, a possibility turned into reality only because of the prodigious opportunities that this university offered to both students and educators.



My purpose as a learner at ADBU was to work hard every single day, which includes preparation for exams and partaking in co-curricular activities and I earnestly took all the opportunities seriously with the best of my ability. My impetus to acquire more and building myself could not have been achieved by my will alone if not by the contribution of the student community as well. Apart from classroom learning, involvement in various activities and assigned tasks taught me important life lessons and development of leadership skills as well as instilled the importance of teamwork.

Mahatma Gandhi had rightly said, "Education means all-round drawing out of the best in child and man- body, mind and spirit" and I have personally experienced that in this University. The curriculum of the university has been uniquely designed, emphasizing on the all-round development of the students bringing about a well-balanced holistic growth of an individual. Be it in the hostel, academic block or the campus as a whole, the environment is filled with positive vibe which helped me to grow and perform at my best potential throughout the process of learning. My motivation to learn and a strong desire to always be the best version of myself were further infused from this place.

My short journey here at DBU was filled with delightful feelings and experiences which no single word can express. I have come to realize that DBU is not just an institution imparting quality education but an abode where one can grow and evolve to be the best of himself/herself in all aspects of life. This 'AWARD' has humbled and motivated me to live out my beliefs in serving the society with utmost dedication, to continue the legacy that has been passed on to me by my university.

**Simranjit Singh Bedi**

*Winner - Vice Chancellor's Gold Medal & Gold Medalist - BTech (Computer Science and Engineering)*

As the four years of my B.Tech life in Assam Don Bosco University has come to an end, I look back at the journey that started on 27th July, 2016. The first day of my class, I walked into a room full of people who were excited yet nervous at the same time. Little did I know, it was with these strangers that I was going to make tons of memories. From assignments, projects to D'Verve, Prajyuktam and many more, the moments where we all worked and had fun together, will always be cherished.

Don Bosco University taught me to be actively involved in the activities and events. Big or small, I tried to participate in as well as organise as many events as I could, which helped me get familiar and bonded with a lot of people in the campus. This developed the leadership quality in me and gave me immense confidence and experience. Being a part of Swastyayan and Swabalamban enabled me to give back to the community in whatever way I could. I spent quality time with the students of neighbourhood through tuition classes. This experience helped me become a better human being and made me realize the challenges being faced by these young students.



As I graduate from this university, I will cherish many happy moments that I experienced here. The one I hold very close to my heart is winning the Smart India Hackathon, 2019. Going to Chandigarh and winning the title was a different experience on its own. It was all thanks to the support of a handful of seniors, who had faith in us, when we didn't even have it on ourselves.

Now when I look back, I understand that it is very vital to grab whatever opportunity that presents itself. As life is unpredictable, we will have no idea on what's coming next and how to react to it. It might be good, it might be bad, it might be weird, but anything can happen. And that's the beauty of it as that's how we get to feel the essence of life. These experiences are truly invaluable and irreplaceable.

I am forever grateful to all the teachers and seniors who guided me and shaped me to what I am today. Without your constant support and constructive criticisms, I'm sure I couldn't have come this far. You helped me throughout my time here at the university. I'll cherish all the memories we created here for a long, long time.

Thank you Don Bosco, for the amazing time I've had with the awesome people I've met. These years will forever be treasured.

Adieu.

## Jemima Yasmin

*BTech (Civil Engineering)*

Greetings to all!

Firstly, I am thankful for being given the chance of expressing my journey with my beautiful family at Assam Don Bosco University. I would like to express my heartiest gratitude to our beloved teachers and special thanks to the faculty and staff members of the Department of Civil Engineering, who have always been so supportive.

Four years of engineering seems to have gone so very quickly. The first day of college was still so fresh in my memory, it was the 27th of July 2016, all new faces, excited, nervous, energetic, and so many emotions to begin with. To be honest, college life was not always a bed full of roses, but I am glad I got to experience both sweet and bitter moments which helped me grow. I remember attending classes till 4:30 pm which was a little difficult initially but in no time, I so much enjoyed being in college. The morning assemblies to start the day with, I feel are rejuvenating. Lab classes were so much fun; of course, learning and experiments in the first place. The technical and cultural fest of our university, Prajyuktam, and D'verve respectively, holds a special place in my heart, with so many events and happenings. I will be forever grateful to my university for the wonderful bunch of people whom I got to meet and interact with. My friends, without mentioning you guys, this piece of writing would be incomplete, you've made my college life so much easier and joyous. I will always cherish our moments together.

Well, everything was very regular until the 14th of March, 2020, in the middle of our last D'verve, and never did we know it was our last day of college. We, the graduating batch of 2020, did not get to formally say goodbyes, maybe because we weren't meant to leave but to stay in each other's hearts forever. Maybe, we are the 'chosen ones.'

Even if life is difficult sometimes, it's worth living. We should always have a positive outlook and an optimistic approach. Let us all try to be the best version of ourselves. Being a responsible citizen, contributing to the betterment of our society, and nurturing our planet I feel, is very important.

As Parkinson's Law states "work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion", we can do plenty of things or learn something new every single day, if we have the willingness or desire. Signing off by quoting Nelson Mandela's, saying, "the greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

Good luck, Juniors!



### Bikram Paul

*BTech - Mechanical Engineering*



The past four years of engineering in Assam Don Bosco University brought a lot of changes in me. As a guy belonging to a small town, I got to learn a lot of new things at DBU, learned many life skills which are important to excel in the professional world. As a student, I always tried to have a learning attitude which helped me gain new skills. The first few days here were a bit challenging. Adjusting with the new environment and with student from different cultures took me some time to get along. The last four years helped me in learning different human behaviors and personalities, because of which I was able to interact with people more easily and efficiently. Learning was always fun in DBU.

As a hosteller, I was able to make myself disciplined, with every work done in time I was able to have an organized and productive college life. Staying in hostel was also fun as well as helpful as most of my batch mates were from the hostel and the stressful engineering life was never felt, doubts solving was never a matter of concern in the hostel.

Something which I am very thankful to DBU is our teachers. Teachers in DBU are very helpful and have always encouraged the students to have a creative thinking and positive attitude towards life. Young minds have a lot of creative ideas which needs to be nourished with proper guidance and mentorship so as to develop their minds and improve their critical thinking ability. But just having critical thinking ability is not helpful unless the thinking is in the right direction. This is something which is easy to achieve in DBU with the help of the teachers because of their helpful nature and guidance.

There came many ups and downs during the past four years, but it didn't affect me because of something which I learned here in ADBU, the attitude of never giving up. The competitive environment in ADBU was always a driving force for me to keep working and never give up. I always believe that opportunities never come knocking on our doors. It is always us who needs to go out and grab the different opportunities available and also to have ultimate faith in oneself and God. This mindset helped me in getting recruited. As I have already mentioned that teachers in ADBU are very helpful, I got immense guidance from the teachers of not only my own department but also from other departments as the organization I got placed in, is an IT organization and required knowledge of programming and being from mechanical department initially I had least amount of interest in that field, which most of the mechanical engineering students have in common. As we all know that once we start understanding something we tend to get more interested in it. This is the same with me as I started getting interested in coding once I began understanding it. With all the memories I had in DBU and as I move ahead into starting a professional life, I would always cherish to remain a Bosconian.



### Sikhhamoni Das

*B Tech - Electrical and Electronics Engineering*

When I left home, 4 years back I wasn't sure what I will get in return. I was excited but at the same time a little scared of the new reality. I was prepared to learn, explore, make new friends and get to know me as an individual self. It had finally occurred to me that I had to leave my comfort zone and live a new reality which was not possible without the help of all the faculties who pushed me in all the difficulties by saying "YOU CAN DO IT". The good experiences that I got here of course did not imply that I did not have to face my share of discomfort, but it's these challenges that made me a stronger and more confident person today.

Every little encounters and experiences gained here in Assam Don Bosco University was enriching and will remain within my memories for life long. Be it taking part in opening and closing ceremonies of Prajyuktam and D'verve, Convocation, Volunteering in various events organized by the university, or the internship presentations, grand viva etc.

Talking from a graduating student's perspective, I believe the stories created beyond the boundaries of the university have been equally helpful to the graduates. As a student of this university, I have a very different experience. The teaching style, the lectures, were very different from what I had experienced in my home city and therefore for the first quarter semester, I was a confused soul. The best thing about the education system in this university is that they let you choose your own speed, you

are not judged by the scores in your grade-sheet. The various current issue studies, the assignments, group work for projects, every one of these was helping me develop skills, which of course at that time I wasn't ready to accept. I thank the university for improving every day, and helping us be in align with the current scenario. All the efforts from Fr. Dr. Stephen Mavely, Fr. Joseph Nellanatt, Prof. Manoranjan Kalita, my mentor Prof. Shakuntala Lashkar ma'am, faculty members, career consultants helped make a student feel at home. I have learned here to never lose any opportunity that comes in my way because no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life goes on, and it will be better tomorrow. At last I want to say that "people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel".

## Supratik Sen

*BTech - Electronics and Communication Engineering*

My four years in ASSAM DON BOSCO UNIVERSITY was very wonderful and memorable. We all know the phrase that goes "School is our second home" and despite studying in college, it felt like my second home as we had proper uniforms and morning assembly and proper lectures just as in schools. Some of the things that I experienced in these 4 years are that I gained self confidence in these years and it was possible due to the Powerpoint Presentations held in each semester and the opportunity given to speak in the morning assembly. I learned to work under stress as we had a tight schedule with all the class tests, assignments and projects, which helped me get better in time management and handling work load. I spent some wonderful time with my friends who also helped me in difficult times, be it academics related or personal life related. Some of us joined together to make a team and we went to different institutions to take part in various events such as Robowar, Robo Soccer etc. and won prizes too. We made various memorable moments participating in these competitions outside campus. I also enjoyed the tech-fest organized by our University in which we participated in various competitions and had fun. I remember participating in Wall Magazine making competition for which some of us stayed back late for finishing the task and even these too formed an unforgettable memory.



The professors of my department of Electronics and Communication Engineering were very helpful in solving any academic problems and also encouraged me to do better in academics as well as co-curricular activities. They also helped me with any personal problems including my mental health, as we know that "Health is Wealth", so healthy mind would lead to better performance.

I received Merit Scholarship from the University which helped me financially and since the Scholarship was given based on my performance in each semester, so it also encouraged me to do well and study hard.

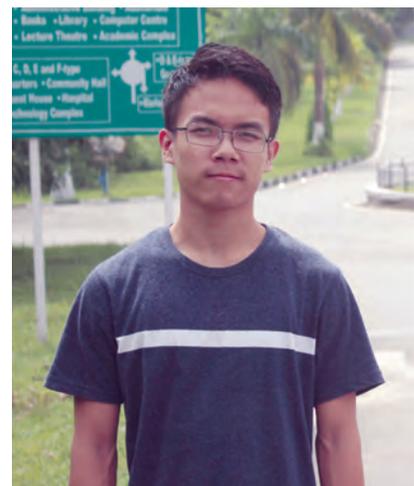
The placement cell of our University guided me and gave me on campus job opportunities in companies such as Wipro, Capgemini, Cognizant, TCS etc. out of which I was selected in two companies. I have experienced a wonderful time in ASSAM DON BOSCO UNIVERSITY and I received help from my department whenever needed. I am shaped by the University for a better future and I am graduating as a better version of myself.

## R. Lalhruaizela

*Bachelor of Computer Applications (BCA)*

I had an amazing experience during my three years in Assam Don Bosco University. I had learned so many things and it made me who I am today. These experiences made me realize how important it is to seize the moment because everything in life is a one-time event. Take the opportunity when it presents itself, you may or may not like the way it turned out but you will become more experienced than before.

My first year in ADBU was spent mostly indoors. I was never good at socializing with anyone. But I knew I was missing out on a lot of things and I wanted things to change. On my second year, I started participating in events, went out with friends and had unforgettable experiences that will always stay with me. One of my classmate even persuaded me to participate in Hackathon and I reluctantly agreed. It was something that I never thought I would be doing, we flew to Indore and had an amazing time



there. I never regretted my decision. The competition was fierce as different people from all over the country gathered there. The final year was tough, but friends and teachers were there to guide and help me through it. Even during this pandemic, the teachers gave their valuable time to teach us and never gave up on us. Completing our projects was really tough and challenging as we could not meet face to face with our peers. But we managed to complete it after hours of staying up late at night, the internet was better at night. I am glad I made the decision to study at DBU.

Lastly, I want to thank all the teachers who taught us not only academics but proper way of life and the faculty members who were always there to guide us when we had any kind of troubles. I also want to congratulate all my peers especially my classmates and let me remind them that learning does not stop after graduation. And to my family who supports and guide me my whole life, I thank you with all my heart and I am glad I made you proud. With a sincere heart I am proud to call Don Bosco University my alma mater.



**Manshi Sangwan**

*Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com)*

*“Every End Has a New Beginning.”*

When I left home, 3 years back I wasn't sure what I will get in return. I was excited but at the same time a little scared of the new reality. I was prepared to learn, explore, make new friends and get to explore myself. I was greatly surprised by the discipline and the systematic way of doing things by the University on the very first day. That discipline continued for the next three years. I was blessed to have faculty members who were really helpful to all the students and who regularly guided us. I remember the student development programmes, especially of the second semester on leadership - group discussions, brain storming sessions, etc, which was a fun learning experience.

Every day in the campus was a new experience for me. The classroom was just one source of learning at DBU. Student development programmes each semester, D'Verve, Prajyuktam, Annual Convocation, Fresher's Meet, seminars and many more contributed to our knowledge and growth. Sports' days, cricket and basketball matches with our faculties, different cultural events and the DJ nights will remain as the most memorable days of my life. I had such a wonderful three years at the University! Having a fieldwork placement under Swastyayan helped me understand the meaning of education through outreach programmes. I always remember the caring and helpful nature of every faculty member; they are really inspiring and always ready to help. Their support and guidance made us more and more confident in meeting the challenges that came our way.

In these three years I have built up a very good memory for a life time, to help me to establish myself as a better person. As days go by I knew that I have come to the right place and I came to notice that this course has helped me a lot both as a person and as a professional. One of the events that touched me most was when I visited one of the organizations as a part of the field work experience. In our fifth and sixth semesters we had our major projects, and as beginners in the field of research we were guided by our faculty members on how to proceed in a particular direction and to complete our projects within the stipulated time. It was great being a student of DBU where I actually enjoyed the process of learning. As a Bosconian, I have learned that life is not all about competing with each other and tiring yourself to be the best and stay on top. It is about giving your best and being content with what you get. Salute to all my teachers. They were the most wonderful people that I have ever met. They saw my potentials and motivated me to strive for competency. I cannot thank them enough. Thanks to Dr. Biju Mani Das, HoD of Commerce and Management, and all the faculty members of our department for their constant support and help.

**Bibin Mathew Varghese**

*BA Philosophy*

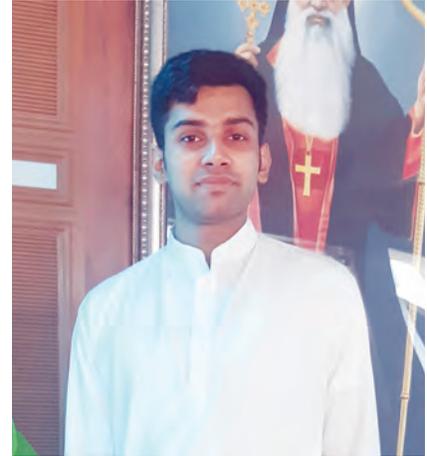
Voice is the reflection of the inner soul. I pen here the reflections of my soul during my stay and studies at Don Bosco University. A walk through the memory lane makes me realize life is so beautiful... A beauty which crosses the boundaries of my words to express. DBU echoes in my heart with music of love. From the moment of my arrival in the College in the year 2017 onwards, it rendered me the warmth and love of the cultural mosaic of North-East beyond measure.

Each day passing by, I realized this mother has unveiled the innate talents in me. Philosopher literally means lover of wisdom, without a doubt lingering in my mind, I acknowledge the abled body of teaching faculty headed by Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Uppamthadathil along with the staff Rev. Fr. Babu Kudakkachira and all other fathers had widened my knowledge and made me capable of absorbing the truth of life. The friendly approach of the staff, never blind to my mistakes, ever ready to correct

instilled in me a confidence to meet life at the cross roads beyond the four walls of class rooms. Along with my Professors, my friends truly brought alive in me, dreams and aspirations thus bringing out the creative genius residing in me. One touch, one pat, one joke of theirs made my whole world shine with radiance of love. I always believe blessings are sweetest that are won with prayers and worn with thanks.

My deepest sentiments of gratitude to Don Bosco University for providing me access to the B.A Philosophy programme in the university. My wholehearted thanks to Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, the Vice-Chancellor of the university for making me part of the grand dream of the university. I thank everyone who offered their help in every way possible. Proud to be an alumnus of Don Bosco university!

Assuring my prayers for you, our dear teachers and staff of Don Bosco University.



## Murchana Goswami

*BA English*

It all feels so surreal today when I realized that I'm a graduate. My three years journey at Assam Don Bosco University starts playing in flashbacks. Life in this university was no different than a movie. It had a little bit of everything- actions, emotions, achievements, downfalls and most importantly surprises. Every day in this university was no more than a surprise for each day was a learning experience whether good or bad. I wouldn't say that my journey was full of roses nor would I say that it was filled with thorns but it was an amalgamation of both.

The memory of my first visit to the university is still so fresh in my mind. I vividly remember it was a rainy day when I came to visit the university with my father. On my way I wasn't sure how it would turn out, but when I entered the university premises I was completely awestruck with its environment. It was unbelievable for me for I had never seen such a beautiful campus in my life. But what really made me comfortable was the treatment we received from the people. It was then I knew that I was ready to experience the three years of my life in this university.

When I first came to this university, I had opened a new chapter of my life and I wanted to make everything memorable so I could cherish for the rest of my life. But then again, life doesn't meet our expectations, not always. It's us that have to live up to the expectations of life and its challenges. And my life in this university was all about challenges whether it's outer challenges or inner battles. I was too naïve to realize these things back then but when I think about it today, it all feels so unreal that I've actually made it.



It was my first time in hostel, living away from my parents and being the only child in my family, I had to learn a lot when I started living my life with complete strangers who later turned out to be family. I still feel all the butterflies in my stomach when I remember my early days in hostel. It was not a cake walk. It took me some time to understand how to live within a community and how to adjust. But nonetheless, it turned out to be a lifelong experience.

All in all, my college life had been full of new experiences which changed my life both personally and professionally. When I first came to the college, I was a small bud and now when I look at myself, I realize how much strong and mature I've become as an individual. The university gave me my long lost confidence which I was seeking for a long time. It made me come out of my comfort zone and be the best version of myself. I'm going to take back three things with me- discipline, consistency and professionalism. My teachers were an embodiment of these qualities, but most importantly my mentor, who guided me throughout my journey. All my achievements wouldn't have been possible without the adjuration from my parents, teachers, well wishers but most importantly my oppositions who further fueled me to do my best in everything I can. And I'm forever grateful to this university for that. And it's an honor to have been graduated from the first batch of English Department.



**Debarsheena Changkakati**

*BA Psychology*

I wish everyone a heartiest congratulations. We all have made it amidst the challenging times and have set an example of how one can never be defeated if one puts his or her everything towards achieving the desired goal. Bidding goodbye to our lovely University, our teachers and friends, our hostel mates is the one thing that everyone anticipates with a mixed feeling. You will be missed. Nothing can replicate the time spent in classrooms, hostel rooms, and the various corners of the campus, brimming with memories. For a teenage girl who has never spent a day away from her comfort at home, the idea of living in a hostel on-campus surrounded by a bunch of strangers was equally scary and frightening. But this bunch of strangers turned out to be the best people you could surround yourself with. It is true how people say friends are the family we choose and I'm glad that I chose this family.

I began my interest in the field of psychology from while in Class 12 where I got to learn the basics. Gradually, I realized that this particular subject stood apart from the other subjects. The topics have their basis in our real lives and my fascination grew. I wanted to learn more about it. Later, the more I attended classes in the University, the more I perceived that the knowledge about mental health in India is considered to be secondary and less publicized than the general health issues. The issues related to our mental well-being have always been hushed and least talked about from time immemorial and as I was completing my graduation, the only thing I was looking forward in my future is to build and become part of an environment where all health related issues can be talked about freely without any discrimination between those illnesses which are outwardly visible to us and those in our minds and our psyche.

My time in the University enriched my life in many ways. It provided me with the necessary tools to enhance my skills, taught me valuable knowledge about this diverse world and people and concepts in general about their culture. All these aspects of college life have also made me more well- rounded as a person. I began to feel more inclusive to the people surrounding me as days passed by.

We went on many trips and departmental picnics, dined together in our hostels, canteens and shared our ethnic delicacies. We joined hands and danced together on the auditorium stage to various musical and prayer numbers, borrowed ethnic clothes belonging to our respective home states, learned about the spiritual belief and faith and how it made people stronger, discussed and analyzed our take on a topic with our knowledge of the specializing subjects and so on. I became aware of a whole new world apart of me and I learned and experienced a lot.

Every ending has a new beginning. Today will be the last day for us at the University but I believe our learning will go on. Therefore, I am proud to say that I had made the right decision of coming to Don Bosco University. Every little encounter and experience I gained here will remain within my memories for life.



**Sushmita Bhowmick**

*BA Mass Communication*

Well I thank God and my parents for giving me the opportunity to spend my three years of journey at DBU from where I now became a Graduate. My journey here was priceless and will stay with me forever. Every one of my batch mate was supportive... guiding me to thrive and be the best of me. The faculty members were not only my guides but also friends who taught me to be a better human being with moral principles. I think this is what anyone can expect from Don Bosco University. Before joining DBU I had never been a part of Don Bosco family but now I can say that I am a proud Bosconian.

Now, when I look back, the first memory that comes to my mind is the FRESHER'S Day where everyone in the University including faculty members and my seniors welcomed us, saying, "Remember one thing, even if you have differences among yourselves, even if you fight sometimes, always remember that at Don Bosco University – we are a family, and at the end of the day, family members come together, help each other, share happiness, sadness and joy together".

This word family from that time has always been in my mind. The Don Bosco family consists of many different people, belonging to different tribes, states, having different backgrounds which have helped me to widen up the horizon of my knowledge and

learn more about different culture. Throughout the journey they also became my friends with whom I shared some of the sleepless nights in the hostel due to editing work related to Mass Com, some secret birthday parties celebrated quietly in our hostel rooms, the stories and memories shared with them are irreplaceable.

This family doesn't only consists of my classmates and peers but also the professors who guided us, spent some sleepless night themselves to teach us, trusting us with different responsibilities, at the same time being a friend and sharing some funny jokes with us while sitting in the café and dining together. Usually in our department we used to say it consists of four pillars consisting of Kaushik Sir, Jaikishan Sir, Monjib Sir and Rupam sir, who are all really fun to work with and very inspiring to watch them work whenever there's any assignment or event assigned to our department.

I will miss all the Diwali and Pre Christmas celebrations, the Bosco Siad and what not. I am privileged to have made such friends and met such beautiful people who have become an integral part of my life and every moment we shared is forever printed in my heart. THANK YOU, Assam Don Bosco University, BA Mass Communication Department, my lovely batchmates and the beautiful campus life for such a wonderful journey!

## Swaati Valerie Sanga

### BA Education

When I was admitted to Don Bosco University, I was clueless about my life and where I stood and where I would stand in the years of my education here. With a sense of excitement and so-called "freedom" I leapt into this new phase of my life. I had the pleasure of meeting new people, some of whom I got along with almost instantly and some whom I took time to get to know. We were indeed nervous but also keen to experience the next three years of our lives together!

When the results of the first semester were announced, I was surprised I had topped the class with the highest SGPA. Ever since, I made a commitment to myself that I should work consistently, always aiming to perform better than the previous year. So I worked harder for every test, every presentation, assignment, project, and examination. I must admit, this wouldn't have been possible without the constant support of my friends who never failed to make me feel happy and a little less "homesick". They became my family. We would dine together, spend our day in class and go out on weekends. We had our trips, the typical University life fest. It's funny how we had last minute study groups before every test and once we left the examination hall, we would all gather by the food stall and eat while cross-checking our answers - the MCQs causing a series of happy squeals and frustrated curses. They made my years here in DBU very memorable.



The faculty have always been very kind to me and encouraging me to work hard from the beginning. They have kept me on my toes-advising me, assigning various tasks for my personal growth and development. They have been influential in making me the person that I am today. I am also very grateful for the numerous events I got to participate and attend. If not my own Convocation, I at least attended two others. On the night before last year's Convocation, a group of students (which I was a part of) and faculty stayed up till about 2AM, making arrangements for the next BIG day. My friends and I volunteered, and we couldn't help but imagine ourselves in the graduation gowns and graduation hats which we would fling to mark the end of our successful years at DBU. But alas! We are far from being able to attend our Convocation on our lovely Campus this year. For a moment I am glad we had the opportunity to "imagine" ourselves graduating last year and I will only take it as a sign that we have not ended our time here, but will remain together for years to come.

To my friends and fellow graduands, I will miss you. I am grateful we have had the chance to meet and study here in this fine Institution. We have had our rough patches but I hope you will take with you, as will I, fond memories of the times we spent in class, the lawns, our hostels, and the food messes. I wish you the best in life and I pray for your happiness and safety. Work for what you believe, love, and stand true to yourself.

To my teachers, wardens, staff, and the authority, I am immensely grateful for everything you have done for me and my fellow batchmates and for the past and present pupils as well. You work tirelessly for us, and we will always be thankful to have had the opportunity to learn with you as our guiding light. To my juniors, I wish you the greatest time and much learning here in DBU. Make the most of your stay here, learn from your experiences and try to make yourselves better human beings. Thank you Fr. (Dr). Stephen Mavelly for constantly inspiring us to be better and filled with more love.



**Vipin Joseph**

*MA English*

An abode of Education becomes an abode of God when the Guru and Sishya sit on the lap of nature, discussing the matters of Science, Humanities, Social service, Communication and the like with a keen sight on the welfare of the whole Society. Here comes the importance of the nature-friendly campus of Assam Don Bosco University where my classmates and I spent two years exploring the plethora of knowledge offered by English Literature. The vibrant classes with our teachers and the warm discussion in the classrooms, the corridors, the canteens, and lawns will be a major missing in our lives as we part.

The University reminded each of us that a healthy mind can thrive only in a healthy body. We rushed to the badminton courts and to playgrounds as we finished our classroom sessions where our minds and bodies were refuelled and powered with new energy. The still and quiet lakes and the vast tea gardens beckoned us to embark on evening walks with our friends to rejuvenate our spirit when we were down or were out of zeal and enthusiasm.

As we graduate from this prestigious Institution, it is my wish that many more truth seekers come to this abode and enrich themselves to see the world around them from a wider perspective. With high speed networks, the world is shrunken to the small screens of smartphones, so too, our vision about lives and others. But I am sure the students of Assam Don Bosco University will make a difference despite their ethnic, religious, and linguistic diversity. I wait for the day when DBU becomes the burning lamp to the whole of Northeast India, Asia, and the World. Thank you DBU!



**Bamin Anku**

*MA Education*

“It isn’t the goal you set for yourself, but the journey or the process you go through to achieve the goal that matters.” One of the many thoughts I collected from the morning talks in the university. To each his own; I got my share of University experience as well and I am glad to have witnessed what I have in my own time. However, it would be false to state that my 2 years in the university was all glorious and that it failed me to become wiser a bit. Each experience, pleasant and unpleasant molded me for the better. There were some instances when we were out of our comfort zone - fighting the nerve before presenting to a crowd, brawling against procrastination, managing field visits, organizing and teaming up with a group of new faces - strangers, adjusting to meals, deadlines to be met, the day the wifi decided to stop or the electricity teasing you on a baking summer night, in queue for the morning shower, late nights challeng-

ing you in the morning, the auto-rickshaw not showing up when you needed it the most, days when you missed family and friends back home, unpleasant interactions that made you guilty to the core, the holidays compensated for classes on Saturdays, fighting the urge to doze off during a lecture, our eyes aiming at the watch waiting for it to strike 4 ending the classes for the day and yet at its worse it made the most of the best of memories and activated some skills in the process of combating it. Then there were times we didn’t want to get over with - the celebrations, weeks of university events cheering for your team and friends or simply the self-declared coffee break between classes, and weekends and holidays which seemed so short.

This is a note of gratitude to the university and to every individual in the university and away, for making it a worthwhile journey. Various opportunities provided in varied set ups, the multicultural encounters, the ecosystem and surrounding, the academic exchange, mentor guidance, the university as a social arena had all been a healthy processes of unlearning the unwanted and learning and reorganizing new ideas. The support from the department has been a constant growth booster. Every interaction with the professors and staff were free of intimidating atmosphere and rather easy and friendly. I am especially thankful to my mentor, the HOD and the professors who unconditionally guided me, kept their confidence in me when I had none in myself and lent their ears to my problems patiently. I cannot fail to highlight the support of my family as well, their trust in me and my decisions despite my many failures. It is uncanny to be graduating amidst a pandemic, getting through the challenges of online lessons and examinations while dealing with network issues, family drama, the new sleep cycle and unorganized routine. But it was another amusing tale to tell and may be a beginning of a whole new phase.

My well wishes to all Bosconians. Carpe diem, quam minimum credula postero!

## Martin Lallawmsiama Ralte

*MSc Psychology*

I can sum up my experience at Don Bosco University in one word - Gratitude. As I pen down my thoughts, all I feel deep down in me is a sense of warmth, gratitude and a feeling of being blessed so abundantly. Being a part of the DBU family was unforgettable: the serene ambience providing a perfect setting for budding students, the majestic structures sheltering us, the bulky academic tasks that challenged us, the lively campus filled with fun and laughter and the blossoming friendships we never wanted to part with.

We started our Academic year 2018 with the theme "We are the choices we make". And I too, among many, began with lots of hopes, dreams, aspirations and I looked forward to the two years brimming with lots of possibilities. And just like that, years passed and here I stand... looking back with gratitude to the memories we all shared. As my dearest friend would often quote "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times".

The education I received from the Salesians and their educational system has made me what I am today, not only in DBU but right from my childhood. It is an educational system par excellence. At DBU, I had the opportunity to learn under very qualified and professional teachers who encouraged me and challenged me to be the best that I can be. ADBU gave us ample opportunities for various developments. Class presentations, group work, community counselling, fieldworks, and internship were really instrumental in preparing us for our professional career. I had the opportunity to intern in various institutes like Snehalaya Guwahati, Kripa Foundation, Adolescent Clinic Shillong and San Ker and it had been wonderful learning opportunities where we got hands on experience and grew in our professional development.

Life in the campus was what I cherished most about DBU. We hailed from various parts of the country and we learned to live together as a family, accepting our differences and learning from each other. My life in ADBU had been made so wonderfully beautiful because of the friendship and companionship that we all shared. It would have been certainly wonderful having our graduation ceremony together in the campus where our adventures began and our friendships blossomed but the prevailing situation has made it difficult. But we hope for better times. I wish all my dearest classmates and my fellow graduates a hearty congratulations and all the very best. God bless you all.



## Amal M Joy

*Master of Social Work*

I was always reminded that only a few privileged Indians study Master's degree. That poignant reality caused me to reconsider my seriousness. In my attempt to recollect my memories I found strong memories that had taken prominent part in my life. I humbly give that credit to the life and environment at Don Bosco University. When I began to study Masters in Social Work, I never thought that it was a magnanimous opportunity in my life. For a life in University was always a special one and more so in Don Bosco University though hectic sometimes, but enjoyable. The friendly fathers, teachers, friends and the beautiful campus were a blessing that facilitated my life. The classes and programmes were necessary to attain the Degree but I learned more by participating in seminars, workshops, camps conducted by National Service Scheme (NSS), International Summer School with Frankfurt University (Germany) and other many occasions.

Life in University throws many moments and they seemed mundane but later realised as momentous. It could be notably remembered that during the award ceremony of 7th convocation, a thought passed in my mind to aim a Gold medal in Social work. I did not think it as my own thought though as it was lingering in my mind. I realized that it was important to listen and needed to consider them seriously. I now understand that there is a power that is beyond me that moves my emotions and thoughts as they suggest thoughts that are for the better. It could have been seen as a passing coincidence or as a pipe dream. To my surprise, I admit that spiritual power suggested a thought that could assist to actualize them. The whole environment acted in correspondence to the achievement of that reality. As for me it was a mere submission to that will and indeed I am grateful to the instrumentality of all those especially, fathers, teachers, brothers, sisters, friends and others who assisted in different ways to achieve that dream. It was they had who guided and supported



me especially in the struggles in life to understand that spiritual power helps to gain focus and remain committed even in the unexpected situations.

It would be needless to elucidate the struggles that Class 2020 underwent recently as all know them. Apart from that, we also suffered the loss of our classmate and friend who had accompanied me in my field work (May God rest his soul). His death emotionally touched our batch and troubled me personally for some time. I was inspired to dedicate my field work for him the best way I could and in return it gave me contentment. There were also disruptions due to the protest against Citizenship Amendment Bill during study tour as well as during the data collection for research. Appropriate guidance and support of teachers helped me to make them as an opportunity. They taught me that life could not be seen without the problems but to learn to live with it. To wind up, I thank my superiors and benefactors for their support and guidance without which I could not have made this possible



**Jnana Ranjan Das**

*MSc Physics*

When I walked in the classroom on the first day, I felt like an outcast as I joined the University late and everyone seemed to have formed groups and there I was standing, not sure about where to sit and settle. However, that lasted for only a few minutes and I was welcomed warmly by my classmates.

The teachers were very friendly. They work really hard and in spite of having a number of classes, they still find time to chat with us and helped us out whenever we needed help. I vividly recall that even after scolding us, in a gentle voice they usually said ‘Please don’t mind’ and we understood why they had to scold us. Morning assembly was a big headache, mostly because random attendance was taken and no one wanted to miss out on attendance. The happiest days were when attendance was taken and deep down we knew they weren’t gonna to take the attendance in the Assembly for

the next 2 weeks. I hated my uniform initially for a couple of months then it became a part of daily life and didn’t bother me that much. The labs were the most fun classes where we always worked in groups. The canteen was a nice place to hangout, we could discuss all our day to day activities with each other and food was not bad either.

The workshops and internships were places where we really get to sharpen our skills. Also we were allowed to go to other universities for weeks to participate in their workshops. Those were some opportunities where we get to learn a lot. I am very thankful for that. The celebrations (teachers day, freshers, farewell ) were times when everyone came forth for team work. The best part was the jam sessions at the end of such celebrations, where we played loud music and danced. The more excited ones used to pull the shy ones in to join and it was a lot of fun to be in it.

The group outings were the most fun. The whole day we explored forests and climbed mountains and jumped into small pools of fresh water in the campus like little kids and when we were tired we would come back to the canteen to have food. And while coming back we would dance the whole way back. Even our teachers would join us.

The study tour was one the most memorable times. We toured various places for a week and visited universities, labs, museums, markets, restaurants, parks and malls. The last couple of months were altogether a different experience. We had to attend classes online, and class tests were open book and assignments were hectic. We used to have conference calls to discuss our issues. Online exams were scary and hectic but we managed to successfully do it.

Now that it is all over, as I look back at the times we had together in the University, I know that I am going to miss them so much.

## Leknath Sharma

*MSc Chemistry*

“Life is about warm friendships, memorable wanderings, and moments of extraordinary beauty”.

When I enter Don Bosco University campus in June 2018, the beauty of the campus really amazed me. The green lush of trees and tea bushes, fresh air, clean environment, terrific infrastructure and many more was so welcoming. The most beautiful and wonderful thing that amazed me was the diversity of people. The University gave us an opportunity to meet with the people belonging to different places with different culture, from north India to South India, from West to East. I learn many things from them, their culture, food, cloth making processes etc. As I joined the classes a little late than others due to some issues, it was a struggle at the beginning – to catch up with what had been taught in my absence and at the same time to sit in the class and learn new things every day. However, with the friendly and very understanding teachers, I managed to catch up with my class. The hardworking and dedicated faculty are the best thing about Don Bosco University.



At the beginning, I was surprised by ‘morning assembly’, and I thought to myself, “what kind of a University makes Masters Degree students attend morning assembly?” But then I slowly realize that it was a good practice. Every day, a teacher or student shares a thought and we pray to God together, it was a wonderful way of starting a day as it challenges and motivates us throughout the day. While in 1st Semester, I fell short of attendance as I joined late. When I brought the issue up to our HoD, Prof. Lopa, she simply replied, “I will speak to the Director. Now, don’t worry about your attendance, focus on your preparation”. She then quickly went to the Director as if it was her personal problem and my problem was solved immediately. I am so glad to have a teacher like her and I thank her sincerely for being such a great HoD for our Department.

I was quite poor in Organic Chemistry, however, the teaching style of Dr. Pallabi and Dr. Manash made me understand it very well and owing to their teaching, I ended up taking Organic Chemistry as my specialization and I am very thankful to them. My special thanks go to Dr. Manash, my guide, who did not stop guiding me throughout the pandemic, who did not stop when the world stood still due to pandemic. I am also thankful to my mentor Dr. Sagar and our inorganic chemistry teacher Dr. Sontara for their help and easy to understand explanations of complex chemistry. And last, but not the least, to Dr. Nibedita, who treated us like her own children, who called multiple times during the lockdown as well to check on our health, studies etc – Thank you Ma’am.

Throughout the lockdown I missed the University very much, my friends and my teachers. Those little moments we share in the cafeteria, laboratories, class – everything now becomes a beautiful memory. The two years I spent at Don Bosco University has become one of the best and most beautiful memories in my life. I am, and will always remain a Bosconian.

## Vikuozonuo Sekhose

*MSc Mathematics*

Let me start off with why I chose this University. The main reason being the quality of education and the mission and vision of the Institution. Of course, there were other factors I considered such as co-curricular activities and extracurricular activities of the University to help impart social and management skills; and the fact that it is a bustling hub full of opportunities and resources to mould and prepare us for the real world was another plus point!

After I secured a seat in the University, I was enthralled to think that I would be spending two years in the Main Campus of Tapesia. Little did I know that I would still thoroughly enjoy my college years at the Azara Campus and it turned out to be my new home for the next two years. The University gave me an opportunity to interact with people from all walks of life, and I learnt to appreciate and accept the diverse culture, and respect cultural differences. It offers a wide spectrum of co-curricular activities, from outdoor sports to indoor games, various competitions like singing,



debates, extempore speech, presentations for both individuals and groups and so much more. There is something for every student, you just have to learn to grab the opportunity and participate regardless of whether you win or lose, because every experience is going to boost one's confidence and skills.

The University engages the students in seminars with themes ranging from specific topics in our specialised fields of study to mental health and hygiene, thereby imparting a holistic education. This allowed me to attend several lectures which although were in no way related to my field of study, yet they proved to be fountains of knowledge. Besides exploring every niche in the University, our Professors also encourage us to expand our knowledge by way of attending workshops and seminars hosted by other Institutions. This left me with a completely new experience when I was given the opportunity to attend workshops organised by Institutions in the other parts of the Country. This has played a tremendous role in shaping the person that I am today.

Now coming to my Department, the Department of Mathematics. We have a strong team of dedicated, humble, and approachable Professors who make learning fun. Not only did they teach us mathematical theories and concepts, they showed us what it means to be selfless, creative, and living up to the virtues of life and for these I am perpetually thankful to them. One thing about the University that stood out to me is the strict Feedback System, which I think is a great way of checking and tracking our performance as a University. If there is one thing I could suggest to the University, it would be to strengthen the Student Support System prioritising the Mental Health of the students, as University life can sometimes be overwhelming and daunting.

Living up to its motto, 'Carpe Diem', the University has taught me to make the best use of my present time and to seize every opportunity. It has pushed me beyond my comfort zone, disciplining me and helping me become the best version of myself. To conclude, I suppose University life is what you make of it. There are countless resources and opportunities, you might not be handed one, you just have to learn to manoeuvre your way through these opportunities and grab what is best for you. My University life will forever be treasured in my heart, and rest assured, DBU has done the best for me.

"You don't just teach, you inspire" and this, you have.



**Vishal Das**  
*MSc Biotechnology*

One of the most interesting stages in the life of a learner that gives us an opportunity to explore the immense world of knowledge is University or College life. It is an ocean of new beginnings and possibilities where one is trained to face challenges in life while creating a strong foundation of knowledge. I thank my parents who supported me to take admission in this prestigious University. I was very excited to join this University as the Campus is so lovely and attractive with lush green surroundings, a reminder of the responsibility I have to conserve nature.

As a student of Biotechnology, DBU has given me one and many platforms to find myself and create many pleasant memories with my friends. I enjoyed my sessions in the laboratories where I gained immense knowledge and practical skills. The presentation sessions greatly improved my presentation skills as well as communication skills. Besides studies, the University conducts various co-curricular and extra-curricular activities which helped me to stay healthy, both physically and mentally. The annual Boscosiad, which is the much-awaited annual event for every student, creates so much excitement and buzz amongst the students. It is in this event that we can showcase our hidden talents to our fraternity. DBU also encourages its students to be involved in and to contribute to Society. This has inspired me to acquire skills which I can channelise for the betterment of society.

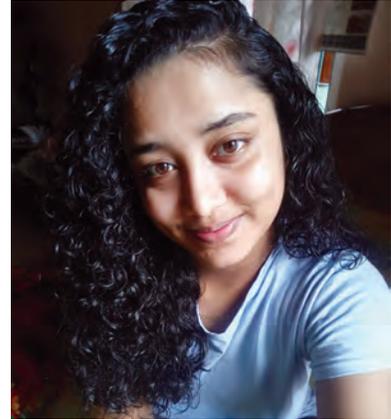
My teachers, as humble and supportive as they are, have guided and helped me to keep on running the track in my learning phase and to never give up. They have imparted valuable knowledge which will, I believe, take me to greater heights. I must mention that the mentoring sessions have helped me to develop critical thinking which is an important life skill. DBU, with its outstanding career counselling programmes, has given me the confidence to compete in national level entrance tests too. I truly admire the discipline that is instilled in every Bosconian. After all, Discipline is wisdom and vice versa (M. Scott Peck). I will sincerely miss and cherish every moment I spent with wonderful people who have enriched my life at the University. I am honoured to be a graduate of Assam Don Bosco University.

## Neha Paul

*MSc Biochemistry*

Don Bosco University is the hub of opportunities, knowledge, experiences. My experience at DBU is that, I was blessed to have kind hearted and talented faculty members. Their guidance, motivation and support changed me not only academically but also helped me build self-confidence. Apart from faculty members, all other non-teaching staff are very kind and helpful. The environment of DBU is humble. This place enriched my life in every aspects, be in the classroom or practical classes or conference or workshops or live interaction with resource persons and a lot more.

The green campus of DBU gave us an opportunity to explore and know the environment very closely. The soothing environment relaxes the soul and mind and makes us mindful of things. And also DBU is a package of diversity in cultures, languages, etc. DBU brought forth my leadership quality and time management ability which became the key to success. The hostels of DBU became my second home and its rules and regulations helped to live a very disciplined life and to develop sound habits. Opportunities presented to me at the University sharpen my skills and all the things I learned in the University helped me become a gold medalist in my department.



## Sonali Yadav

*MSc Microbiology*

It is unbelievable that, such a good two years passed so quickly. I am very glad that I chose this university for my post-graduation. The changes that I felt inside me is due to my involvements in the academic and extracurricular activities and these are one of the biggest achievements for me in this university. These experiences are going to be very important assets for my future.

What to say about myself, I was an average student during my B.Sc. and thought that I would remain the same. The very first day in the university, I was interviewed and asked to perform well. My teachers encouraged and believed me. One more event that encouraged me was the convocation of my seniors, watching the gold medalists on the stage.. I made a promise to myself that I would work as hard as I can and I would be there to receive the gold medal. I thank my teachers and mentor for helping me and enlightening me through every step. As a science student, I can say that we have two papers - theory and practical. These 'two years' was like a theory paper that will never come back, but the practical is the 'unforgettable memories' we created here.



Apart from studies, we had a lot of fun during 'Boscosiad' and other 'Liberal Art Club events'. I participated in all these and being actively involved in such activities was one of the great building blocks of my personality, and I was able to showcase my talents.

I am thankful to all my classmates. We learned the meaning of true support, unity, team work, and competition. My friends supported me during all my tough phases and always motivated me to do the best. I met with people from different states, this diversity is the beauty of our nation. I tried to learn their cultures, languages, wore their clothings and ate their foods, etc. I would say to those who do not like to stay in the Hostel 'You have missed a great deal of life!'. Having a pleasing room with impressive and co-operative roommates is like a beautiful cake with a cherry on the top. I am grateful to my roommates for being a small family and we shared all our happiness and sorrow together. Time spent in 'food court' was memorable and I thank all who used to cook and fed us such a good food.

I never thought that such a time would come, that we had to be separated from you all in this way. Everything changed after the arrival of corona pandemic. Even in this challenging times, the university has done a very good work for the people and I felt very proud for being a student of this University. I am immensely grateful to all of you and am going to miss my university life.



**Archana Lama**

*MSc Zoology*

*“Student life is the sowing season of life”*

I had the pleasure of studying my M.Sc (Zoology) in Assam Don Bosco University, Tapesia campus. I remember how thrilled and amazed I was by the natural beauty and architectural excellence of the University campus the moment I entered the campus for the first time accompanied by my parents who went to drop me. It is hard to believe that two years had gone by.

I thank God for giving me the opportunity to study in the friendly environment of this university, and for my classmates, my seniors, my juniors and of course my respected teachers who were always very supportive and helpful in every way. No doubt, our university is well-known and one of the best in the region, I am proud of its inspiring faculty and their relationship with students. This university provides a platform where

students from all walks of life can design their dreams and decide for their future.

Teachers touch the heart of a student and mould every child into a successful person. It is quite true and I must say it is my respected teachers who helped me a lot to grow and achieve the best. My cherished dreams would not have come true and I would have never become who I am today without my teachers’ valuable guidance and support. I take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to all my teachers for their kind support. Apart from academics, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities go side by side in ADBU which keep all Bosconians busy all year around.

During my 2 years at ADBU I had the opportunity to visit the ‘Manas National Park’ for an educational field trip along with my classmates and teachers organized by our Department which was fascinating and quite enlightening. And also during BOSCOSIAD-2019, I was able to bag a medal in table tennis in women’s singles event. I still remember that glorious moment of my life when I was crowned as “Miss Fresher-2018 (P.G)” on the event of General Fresher’s, organized by Tapesia Campus. The memory of Don Bosco University will remain evergreen in my mind. I shall forever cherish those beautiful moments I spent with my friends who will always be close to my heart.

Lastly, to me, “Hard work, dedication and sacrifice are the keys to success”.

Long live Assam Don Bosco University!



**Genevieve Chyrmang**

*Master of Computer Applications (MCA)*

Coming to university has been one of the defining moments of my life and my university experiences have been amazing. The University of Assam Don Bosco is a very welcoming place, and I felt at home here from day one. Doing MCA allows for a lot of flexibility and I was able to fully explore my interests. I learned and experienced so many new things in such a brief time, and it went by so fast.

Two years ago, I made a decision to pursue a post-graduate degree course at Assam Don Bosco University. In the middle of it; I wanted to give up, wanted to pack books and bags, and go home. Some did that. Honestly, that would have been an easier choice, but I stuck through it all, thick and thin.

To my classmates, some of us came to this university with high or low ambitions, but today graduating tells me only one thing that our expectations and ambitions have been met. We should hold our heads high because, in the past two years, we have faced all the obstacles life has thrown at us. It was not all pleasant, but we have reached the end of this struggle. It’s the beginning of a new one, too, and I want to motivate you to never give up.

At Assam Don Bosco University, I met great individuals and people who inspired me to a greater extent. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my mentor, Dr. Kangkana Bora, who led me to some life-changing experiences, such as my last year project in a reputed organization of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (Ballistic), which enabled me to work in the field

of image processing and Artificial Intelligence, which helped me to publish my first paper for the Springer Book chapter. I would like to express my gratitude to all of my teachers for striving, for inspiring and motivating me to do better. I would like to thank my friends for being helpful, my family for believing in me, for their never-ending support, and encouraging me when I was on the verge of giving up.

## Happy Deori

*MTech Civil Engineering*

*“The journey to reach one’s GOAL is more important than the GOAL itself, because it is only when the journey’s direction is right, one can successfully achieve their GOAL.”*

I started my journey in Assam Don Bosco University in the year 2014 as a B-Tech student under the Department of Civil Engineering. This was the year where I came across new people with different backgrounds and paved our ways together. The initial days were full of mixed feelings - I was excited but at the same time I was nervous too, as I was starting a complete new journey of my life in Assam Don Bosco University. Well, those were my golden days that I can never erase from my heart. The four years of my engineering graduation there itself had so much in-depth knowledge upgrading in my respective field. All the people that I have come across in this journey holds special memories which I cherish as I go back to memory lane. To me this journey seemed to be a long one initially, but, little did I know that I would be craving for more years after such affection and bonding with this University. I am thankful that I chose Assam Don Bosco University over any other institution because what I achieved from DBU is irreplaceably significant. I am and I will always be grateful to all the faculty members, not only from my Department, but all others that I have come across directly or indirectly through any kind of work. Each and every day was full of life. It would be wrong to call this only as a journey because I have found a family here with love and care.



Life during B-Tech days were amazing, full of upside-down memories with lots of happy and fun events. We were living our moments without realising that we were making the best memories. I miss the fun, class room moments, lab classes and everything about each semester. Something I would really like to mention here is about my TEACHERS, there was never a real struggle to go through and clear doubts or any difficulties as there was full cooperation from their side. They were kind, humble and helpful to always pull us out of the troublesome works. They were my pillars and without these pillars my journey would have never been completed. Besides them, are my friends with endless memories, from doing the most stupid things to looking after each other during the hard times. And yes of course, another best part was the hostel life. We learned, we grew and matured during this stay. Time flew too fast and it was the year 2018 – the final semester. After my B-TECH, when I had the opportunity to select other University to pursue my Master’s Degree, I chose Assam Don Bosco University and the two years of M-Tech added more colours and joy to my DBU journey.

I did my project on “EXPERIMENTAL AND ANALYTICAL ASPECTS OF SIESMIC RETROFITTING” under the supervision of Mr. Mustafizur Rahman, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering. During this project phase, I got to know and learn more in depth as this was different from what I experienced in B-Tech. The project was carried out individually and, in a way, it helped me to boost my self-confidence to carry out the work more precisely. Here was the time when I applied my theoretical knowledge in practical works and came up with new experimental ideas, like using of fish scale for retrofitting.

Thanks to Don Bosco University that I got the chance to meet all these wonderful people and make them a part of my life and at the same time I am grateful that I got to learn and experience small to big changes which has given me a new direction to look upon life and things ahead. Given a chance, I will give no second thought to be a part of this institution, to give my service as a faculty. So that I will be able to contribute in similar ways with which I was groomed while upholding the same motto of the institution. My tie-in with DBU is forever and with this I would like to sincerely THANK YOU to each and every one out there for making me the person I am now.

## Tanmoy Roy

*Master of Business Administration (MBA)*

*"Oh, when I look back now  
That summer seemed to last forever  
And if I had the choice  
Yeah, I'd always wanna be there  
Those were the best days of my life."  
(From Summer of '69 - Bryan Adams)*



May 2018. I stepped onto the campus of Assam Don Bosco University for the first time, and trust me when I say this, I never expected to have such a great, exciting, and enriching experience in my entire life. There was a huge infrastructural foundation in front of me and I felt small and insignificant. Moreover, this was my first visit to North-east India, and I was not at all disappointed!

Let me introduce you to my Hostel Life. Again, this would be my first time living in a hostel, with complete strangers. No doubt, I was apprehensive and anxious about almost everything-roommates in particular! However, as luck would have it, I had the best roommates I could have ever asked for, Veni and Abul. It was as if we were meant to encounter each other, just like Laurel and Hardy or The Three Musketeers (I suppose this is a better analogy since we were a gang of three). Whether it was sports or academics, we would always stick together. This was my trio, my new family, offered to me by Don Bosco. Just like in any family, I could be myself whenever I was with them.

The Guardians of the Institute, Fr. (Dr.) PD John, Fr. Poojit, Sr. Magdalene, Sr. Agatha and Fr. Paulus, were authoritative figures yet amiable, guiding me in every path and showing me where I went wrong and how to make things better. The Professors of my Department, Professor Chandan, Professor Pradeep, Professor Abhinav, Professor Hrishikesh, Professor Bikash, Professor Amal Dev, Professor Pranjoy, Professor Swapan, Professor Juri and Professor Gayatri, are energetic and they have managed to pass on their energy to us which drove us to participate in every event and not "bunk" any of their lecture sessions.

The daily assemblies were unusual but interesting. One was to present a book review on a book we chose from the library. "Library Month" was the month I would always yearn for. We organized competitions such as elocution, extempore, singing, dancing, collage making, painting, debate and my personal favourite, QUIZ. I guess I can now brag about how I defeated the other teams, two years in a row, by a margin of 100 points. Haha!!

I am not a person who goes out much, but we had special Department outings in the form of picnics, industrial visits and we also visited an outreach centre. It was at this time, when we journeyed to Siloam, which is almost like Galilee teleported into Meghalaya. The sheer beauty and atmosphere of the place had me baffled, and instead of doing my assigned tasks, I could not help but stare at the beauty of the place and keep capturing photographs on my phone. Further, I consider myself to be blessed as I had the chance to visit Siloam twice, thanks to Fr. PD John, who felt I was deserving to go for a second time. I thank Fr. George of Siloam for the positive vibes that he passed onto us during this time, as well as the Grand Dinners we had by the Umiam Lake.

DBU provided me with a platform to showcase my talents and I am really grateful for all that I have received. The level of smartness and confidence that I possess right now, I owe it all to the Fathers, Sisters, and Professors of the Institution. My success would not have been possible without their constant assistance and guidance. I am happy to share that I have been placed in two Organizations namely, HDFC Bank and HDFC AMC, and right now I await for the joining letters. Although it has been a wonderful journey, I am sad to have not been able to bid goodbye the formal way - Farewell event. There were a couple of plans but everything came to an awkward halt.

This is but a gist of all the incidents I could muster in my head right now. There are so many smaller and weirder incidents that took place too, but those are for a different time and a different place. To conclude, hearing a story from someone else's mouth is good, but it is better when you get the opportunity to experience it first-hand. I thank the readers for reading this and especially the University for publishing this small piece I wrote from the bottom of my heart.

Cheers and God Bless!

## Millennium Nongrum

*Master of Commerce (MCom)*

My university experiences have been amazing. I have learned and experienced many new things in just two years and it has gone by so fast. Assam Don Bosco University is a very welcoming place and from the very first day I felt at home here.

Assam Don Bosco University was not actually my first choice to continue my master's degree. I had one university in mind and I worked very hard to get there, but I was rejected and I was shattered. I remember telling my mother that I was a failure. My family encouraged me to try and looking for admissions elsewhere and they contacted my friend who was already enrolled in this university and she said that there are few spots left for admission. The next day we went and I was called for an interview and I got in.

I started my classes a day after I was accepted in the university. I didn't even feel alienated on the first day. My classmates were already my friends. The teachers we had for our classes right from the first semester to the final semester were the best faculty I have ever had. And they are the reason our department is doing so well in the university. They not only teach us to finish the courses but they encourage us and inspire us with every lecture they gave.



Being a part of the Department of Commerce was like being a part of a family who encouraged you to always give and do your best. The university was always giving new opportunities to students to try and learn new things every day through seminars, workshops, trainings as well as giving the students platforms to showcase their skills and talents through various functions and programmes. I enjoyed being a part of these various events and it taught me to always stay open to new learnings and skills because that's how we grow as students.

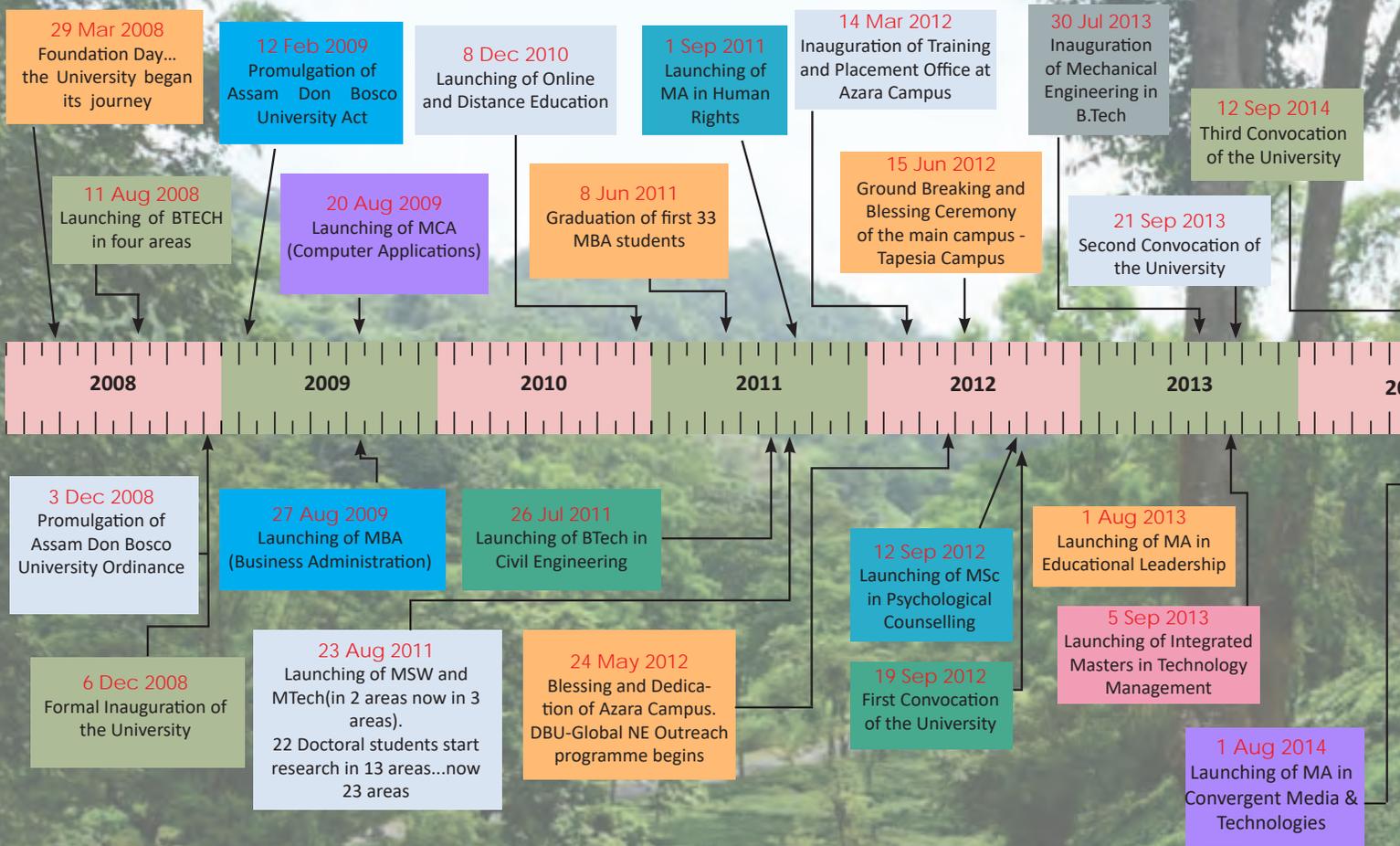
My family raised me to always be the hardest working person and a humble person in the room. And I never forget that. Getting in this university was a constant reminder of what my family taught me. I see every day teachers with high qualifications and yet so humble and dedicated in what they do. They never failed to give their best to their students and that was what made this university one of the bests in the region. They inspired and encouraged students like me to never give up and to always strive forward no matter what.

Being a student of this university made me forget that I was a failure. Not getting into a university I wanted did not mean I am a failure. I got a chance to come to one of the best universities because I was rejected by the university that I dreamed of since I was in college. It was in Assam Don Bosco University that I got to experience and learn things that I had never learned before. I also want to leave a message to my brothers and sisters who are still pursuing their studies here in the university. No matter where you come from and no matter how many times you have fallen down you always have a chance to become a better person. You always have a chance to work hard, to never stop pursuing what you want to pursue. You have everything you need in this university and you have got the best faculty to take you forward towards your goals. The only thing you need to do is to be dedicated, determined and to always be honest with the work you are doing.

Thank you to my dear teachers who have never stopped inspiring me and to the family of Assam Don Bosco University. It definitely was the best and the most memorable two years of my life.



**Journeying in hope... a timeline of the University**







Hackneyed times...  
but not broken lives!  
Dr. Stephen

Do what you have to do  
until you can do  
what you want to do.  
Johnyals

Congratulations to the class of 2020 of ABEU.  
I thank God for you that you got this  
opportunity to graduate. You are among the  
less than 5% of the population of our country  
that got this privilege.  
At least 1.23 billion of our countrymen have  
not graduated, either because they are still too  
young or they never had the chance.  
My wish for you is: Make a difference to the  
society as a true Boseonian.  
Fr Joseph Nellanath JMC

No alternative to  
hard work and  
dedication to what-  
ever you do.  
Jai Vikram Sharma

Live a rewarding and fulfilling  
life.  
Nonnaguri Baruah

Best wishes for the future  
Dr. Shiny

Dear Class of 2020,  
Blessings on your  
Graduation and Beyond!  
- NISSI PAUL S

Dear students,  
Congratulations and wishing  
you good luck for new beginning  
of life. May you reach all your  
goals.  
Nibedita Kapil

Aim higher, reach the  
unreachable star. Best  
wishes  
Ms. Madhu

Hardwork and dedication  
is the key for every  
success in life.  
K.C. Kapoor

Respect the life God has given you as  
a gift and work hard to make best  
out of it. All the best for a bright  
and successful career.  
Dr. Ganga R.

Spread happiness where ever  
you go.  
Priya Choudhury

All the Best  
Fly High.  
Lukase BT.

Dear graduating students,  
Wish you all the very best, for  
your future careers. Be happy &  
Keep smiling ☺. Live your life  
fully within the moment!!  
Leena H. Nemade

Congratulations today &  
Best wishes for all your  
tomorrows.  
Pranab Das

Spread your wings  
and soar across  
the blue skies  
Juni Baruah

Our life has a purpose.  
Live it to the fullest!  
Rijee Sharma

I would be very happy to see smiling  
face and happiness in your future  
career ahead -  
May God bless you all...  
Dr. Biju Mani Das  
HoD, Commerce, ABEU

Trust yourself, your abilities, have faith in God,  
respect your parents, work hard and succeed  
All the Best.  
CHANDAN DUTTA

Dear students, from now onwards  
we shall be separated by physical  
space, but you will be  
occupying a permanent space in our  
mind and heart. All the best for  
your future.  
Sumit Dey

Warmest Congratulations on your  
graduation. May happiness and  
Sunshine fill your days ahead  
- Dr. Bobby Sharma

Wishing you all the very best  
for the future. May you all be  
successful and happy in life.  
(Amen Shashi)

Congratulations!  
You are proof that good things come to those  
who are willing to sacrifice to reach a goal.  
We are all proud of you.  
Mojib Mochahab

"There is no substitute for hard work  
So, work hard and achieve your dreams  
ALL THE BEST  
Trishita K. Das

It has been an amazing journey watching each and  
everyone of you grow. Though I cannot believe  
that this is already the end of the journey, I am  
so happy and excited for your futures and wish  
upon the best in the years to come.  
Good luck & Good bye  
Dr. Sakshi Anan Choudhury

I am sure today will be only the first of  
many proud, successful moments for you.  
Dr. Saikat Banerjee

Best wishes for a bright  
future  
Shikunala Das