



Lasallian Youth Gathering 2019

12th to 14th October, 2019



Venue: La Salle H/S School, Multan

Held On	12th to 14th October 2019
Organized By	La Salle H/S School Multan
Guest of Honor	His Excellency Bishop Banny Mario Travas
Chief Guest	Rev. Br. David Hawke, FSC.
Special Permission and Approval	Rev. Br. Shahzad George Gil, FSC.
Focal Person / Chief Organizer	Br. Rehman Javed FSC.

Context

The 'Third Lasallian Youth Gathering-2019' was organized in La Salle Higher Secondary School, Multan. About 180 students from 9 Lasallian schools in Pakistan along with their Principals, La Salle Brothers and Teachers participated in this programme. The theme of the Tercentenary of Saint La Salle "One Heart, One Commitment and One Life" was taken as the theme of the 3rd LYGP. The present year was dedicated for the tercentenary celebrations. The main purpose of the gathering was to educate the young Lasallians regarding the life of Saint John Baptist De La Salle and the Lasallian Mission 'to serve and educate the poor, marginalized and deprived communities of the society who have no access to education'.

Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony of the 3rd LYGP 2019 was held on eve of October 12, 2019. Mr. Amir Shahzad (La Salle Faisalabad) and Ms. Sonia Aslam (La Salle Multan) were the MC's of this programme. Ms. Sonia gave the introductory note about the LYGP-2019. Br. David Hawke (Brother Visitor of the District of ANZPPNG), Bro. Shahzad George Gill (Principal, La Salle Multan), Bro. Shahid Mughal (Principal, La Salle Faisalabad) and Bro. Zafar Daud (Director, Catechists' Training Centre, Khushpur) released the pigeons and a banner containing the theme of the LYGP-2019.

Bro. David Hawke officially inaugurated the LYGP-2019 by cutting the ribbon. This was followed by fireworks. After that a Folk Dance Performance was presented by the students of La Salle Multan to greet the guests.



FIRST DAY (12TH October 2019)

The programme was started with National Anthem. After that, Master Usman Siddiqui (9th A) recited some verses from the Holy Quran Miss Hania Asif (10-C) recited some verses from the Holy Bible.



While delivering the welcome speech, Bro. Shahzad George Gill welcomed Bro. David Hawke, the Principals, La Salle Brothers, Teachers, Youth Leaders and youths to participate in the 3rd LYGP 2019. He further said, "We are pleased to host the 3rd LYGP 2019 in Multan. We feel honoured to have Bro. David Hawke with us in celebrating the LYGP-2019." He highlighted and explained the theme of LYGP 2019. He also invited the participants of the LYGP to play their roles to change the lives of others through care and love.

After the welcome speech, the students of La Salle School Multan presented a welcome dance presentation that demonstrated the cultural uniqueness and local traditions.

“A Year of Lasallian Vocation” (Facilitator: Br. David Hawke)

Bro. David Hawke delivered an opening keynote on “A Year of Lasallian Vocations”. He showed a video to the participants that enhanced their enthusiasm and boosted up their energy. He also shared his cool sweet memories of 2nd LYGP held in Faisalabad. He said that Pakistanis are creative and the creativity of Young Lasallians shall boom. He said, "I have experienced here the great interfaith harmony because two Holy Books were recited here and it is a great example of the interfaith harmony. I am very much optimistic and hopeful about the pathways each of you will choose after LYGP, may be in 2020, 2025 or in 2030."



He said, "Our founder St. John Baptist De La Salle died on 7 April 1719 but his heart is beating even today in each one of us."

“One Heart” (Facilitator: Br. Zohaib)

Bro. Zohaib Gill from La Salle School Malkhanwala (member of LMS) led his session through a beautiful presentation. He talked about one topic of the tercentenary theme 'One Heart'. While elaborating his topic, he differentiated between the biological heart and a Lasallian heart. He said that the biological heart beats and pumps blood to the whole body to keep it alive but the Lasallian heart feels for others and works for others. If we will not be Lasallian, we will not be here. Heart symbolizes with words like love, friendship and care. A happy heart does not mean a romantic heart, but it explores different meanings. It means care, love and help which was shown in a video where a man waters a plant, feeds a dog and helps a beggar woman and her daughter and an old woman



with fruit every. As a result, the plant grows up, the beggar woman sends her daughter to school, the dog loves him and the old woman also loves him. It all happened because of a loving heart. The reason we have kept 'one heart' as a part of the tercentenary theme is because we see people around us who need attention, care and love.

Presentation of Lasallian Schools

In this part of the programme, the students from all the participating schools presented their progress reports one by one as mentioned below:

1. La Salle School & College, Faisalabad
2. La Salle Higher Secondary School, Multan
3. Alban's High School, Multan
4. La Salle High School Campus 2 (Urdu Medium), Faisalabad
5. La Salle High School, Khushpur, Faisalabad
6. La Salle High School, Gokhuwal, Faisalabad
7. La Salle High School, Malkhanwala, Faisalabad
8. La Salle High School, Sant Singh, Faisalabad
9. St. Joseph High School, Gujranwala

All the schools presented their reports in detail depicting their strengths, school execution and management strategy, curricular activities, co-curricular activities, achievements and highlights of sports activities and results of external examinations.

Their reports were the proof of their efforts that they are making for the holistic development of the students regardless of caste, creed, gender and ethnicity. Some schools are not so strong financially. Sometimes they are lacking funds to manage the school but even then they are regularly putting in their efforts to continue the mission of our founder St. John Baptist De La Salle.

The first day was ended with the night reflection session led by Bro. Zohaib Gill who emphasized on the personal commitment of every student with his/her religion and value of prayers in the successful life.

Second Day (13th October 2019)

The Day was started with the morning reflection led by Br. Rehman Javed. After Reflection Mr. Amir Shahzad called upon Bro. Qamar John for the second session of the LYGP 2019.



“One Commitment” (Facilitator: Br. Qamar John)

Br. Qamar John delivered a beautiful presentation on the topic **“One Commitment”**. He said that our heart can change the world. He elaborated the life of St. John Baptist De La Salle by explaining different stages of his life (from 30 April 1651 to 7th April 1719). The contribution of Saint La Salle was so enriching that on 15th May 1952, the Catholic Church proclaimed him as the Patron Saint of All Teachers.



Bro. Qamar also explained the reason of using the word 'one' with heart and commitment and life separately.

We do so because these belong to one man who was committed to all and his heart is still beating in each of us. He changed the life of poor and marginalized communities. Commitment means whatever we decide, we ought to focus on it and with faith we can reach our destination. As Lasallians, we believe in the presence of God in each individual. To be committed is defined as the act of binding oneself to a cause of action. This is the need of the time that one must be dedicated and involved in something, person or cause.

As students, there could be small commitments that need to be followed and commitment never changes. As brothers we are committed, are leading our lives and are serving the youth.



It is a commitment that Bro. David Hawke came from Australia. St. La Salle says “One commitment leads us to another”. God touched his heart for the poor, marginalized and deprived who had no opportunities to get education. He said that when we set some goals and are committed to the goals, they will be achieved without pushups. Patience, boundaries and limitation are very important to reach the destination. In spite of many challenges, we achieve our goals due to our commitment towards them. Our Lasallian Schools

have the same vision, same mission and same commitment. They are stepping forward to the same destination of providing the equal educational opportunities to all segments of society.

After Bro. Qamar’s impressive session, Bro. Rehman Javed asked the participants to go to their respective groups and group leaders for exposure visit to experience the community service. Five groups were formed who visited different places as mentioned below:

Group	Place
Group One	SOS Village
Group Two	St. Solomon Primary School
Group Three	Kila Kohna Qasim Bagh
Group Four	On Duty Traffic Police
Group Five	Old Age House

Reflection of the Visits

The students who visited the SOS Village, mingled with the orphan children and shared their time and fruit with them. The orphan children were happy to see this group with them. They expressed themselves and shared their stories with the group members.



The group that visited St. Solomon School planted plants along with the students of St. Solomon and had chit-chat with them about their school, their study, their future plans etc. They group shared fruit and candies with the students of St. Solomon.

The Group that visited Qila Kohna Qasim Bagh collected the garbage from the surroundings of the shrine for raising awareness of cleanliness among the community. They had discussions with the staff of the shrine and local community members about their local problems/issues. They expressed that the cleanliness is the main problem over here. Most of the people who come here for the visit, they eat and throw the wastage here and there. It is a big challenge for us to maintain the cleanliness.

The Group which visited the On-duty Traffic Police came to know about the problems faced by them during duty hours. They expressed that most of the people violate the traffic rules and do not cooperate with the traffic police. Such a behaviour causes accidents.

The Group which visited the Old Age House met the senior citizens who are missing their beloved ones who kicked them out from their houses. They had very painful and grieved stories about the behaviour of their families.

In a nut shell, all the groups had different learning experiences about their visits which they shared with each other afterwards.

Workshops

There was an arrangement of various workshop for the groups to participate as mentioned below:

Sr #	Topic of Workshop	Facilitator
01	Inspiring Story of St. John Baptist De La Salle	Bro. Moon Atif
02	Our Lasallian Heritage	Mr. Amir Shahzad
03	Choose to say yes an inspiring Vocation story	Bro. Zohaib
04	Faith in Action	Fr. Shahzad Niamat
05	Our Inspiring Role as a Young Lasallian	Ms. Gulnaz Alfred

Musical Concert and Cultural Night Show

The Musical Concert and Cultural Night Show was another interesting segment of Lasallian Youth Gathering Program which was organized to provide recreation to the participants.

A famous singer Mr. Sajid Rahat was invited for the musical concert. He presented the beautiful famous songs that boast the energy of the students.

There were also very beautiful cultural dance performances by all schools. They presented outstanding and fabulous performances that cheer and fire up the youth. The best cultural performance was given by the La Salle Faisalabad and La Salle Khushpur. Br. David Hawke (Visitor ANZPPNG) also enjoyed the program, remains among the students and had a chit chat with students.



Third Day (14th October 2019)

“One Life” (Facilitator: Br. Sajid Bashir)

The day was started with the reflection led by Bro. Robin Mughal. After the reflection, Mr. Amir Shahzad called upon Bro. Sajid Bashir for the last session on the topic of “One Life”.

Bro. Sajid Bashir highlighted the topic by saying that the theme is not merely the words or phrases. These are actions in-between the birth and death. There is “choice” which is very important factor. William Shakespeare said in seven stages of life that “life is a stage and we all are performers”. We are existing because God has given us life and it is “One Life” that is given only once. Our life



should have a purpose and we should be grateful to God because life is very short and we should break our silly egos. Life becomes more meaningful when we accept and value other people. We should take the first step instead of looking at the whole stair case. Abdul Sattar Edhi, Dr. Ruth Pfau, Malala Yousafzai, Nelson Mandela and St. John Baptist De La Salle are the most inspirational and role model personalities because they took the first step to change the life of others.

Closing Ceremony

At the closing ceremony, La Salle Multan presented a cultural dance performance highlighting all the provinces of Pakistan. After that, Mr. Amir Shahzad called upon Bro. David Hawke and Bro. Shahzad George Gill to award all youth ministers with the certificates.



While addressing the participants of the 3rd LYGP-2019, Bro. David Hawke highly appreciated them and their performances. He thanked Bro. Shahzad George Gill for inviting him to be a part of the 3rd LYGP-2019. He also congratulated Bro. Shahzad and all concerned on organizing such a wonderful programme. He also appreciated the youth for their active participation and for making it a meaningful programme in terms of their learning and development.



While addressing the participants, Bro. Shahzad George Gill thanked them for their participation. He said, "We work together and learn to be Lasallian and serve others. We receive inspiration from the life of St. John Baptist De La Salle who enlightens our vocations and lives. It is great honour for us that Bro. David Hawke is with us. His presence encourages us to carry out the mission of our founder. He thanked Bro. David Hawke for his personal presence during the LYGP 2019."

Focusing on the arrangements of the 3rd LYGP-2019, he congratulated the organizing committee. He said that reason behind the success was the team-work and the sharing of responsibilities. He thanked the Vice Principal, Head Mistresses of Primary Section & Girls School, the teachers, coordinators, speakers and the presenters. He said that the pushing force behind the organizers was Br. Rehman Javed. He also thanked the organizers behind the concert, especially Mr. Amir Shahzad and his team. He thanked the food committee, accommodation organizers, and security guards. He thanked organizing and executive committee, decoration committee,



musicians and old Lasallians. He thanked the youth for their active participation. He thanked all who were directly or indirectly involved in this youth gathering programme.

While sharing his views, Bro. Rehman said that it was the team-work that made this programme a successful. He thanked all the teachers who were responsible for the accommodation and discipline. He thanked Mr. Amir Shahzad who hosted the programme artfully. He thanked to organizing committee for their untiring efforts to make this programme successful. He also thanked Bro. David Hawke and Bro. Shahzad George Gill for their keen interest during the whole planning of the 3rd LYGP-2019.

Glimpse of LYGP 2019

