Saint Francis Xavier – Patron Saint of Goa
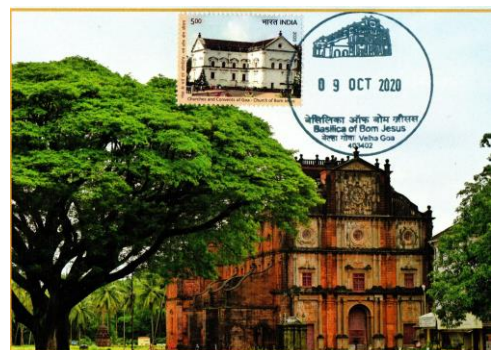
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St. Francis Xavier was born in Navarre in Spain in the castle of Xavier on 7th April, 1506. He came over to India in May 1542 at the instance of the King of Portugal and preached the Gospel of Christ for ten years. His fields of work were Goa, the coromandel coast and the west coast upto Cape Comorin.

Even though the Portuguese India stamps got printed from the period, 1871, the stamps of Saint Francis Xavier were first printed in 1931. A set of six stamps were printed, which included Cassock, SFX arrival in Goa, Bom Jesus Basilica and the Tomb.

On October 25, 1952, to commemorate the 4th Death Centenary, only three stamps were issued – that of the statue, the miraculous arm and the tomb.

Strip of 10 stamps, Philatelic Exposition, 1952.

A Permanent Pictorial Cancellation on a Maxi Card on SFX 0n 9 October, 2020.

An FDC on the SFX was issued by the Department of Posts on 24th December, 1974