Hands-On 2 – Spring Core: Load SimpleDateFormat from Spring Configuration XML

# 1. Objective

To define a reusable SimpleDateFormat bean in a Spring XML configuration file and load it into the application to avoid creating it in multiple places.

# 2. Implementation Steps

## Step 1: Create Configuration XML File

Create a file named 'date-format.xml' inside the 'src/main/resources' folder of the 'spring-learn' project.

## Step 2: Add Bean Definition for SimpleDateFormat

Below is the content of the 'date-format.xml':

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>  
<beans xmlns="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans"  
 xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"  
 xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans  
 https://www.springframework.org/schema/beans/spring-beans.xsd">  
  
 <bean id="dateFormat" class="java.text.SimpleDateFormat">  
 <constructor-arg value="dd/MM/yyyy" />  
 </bean>  
</beans>

## Step 3: Update SpringLearnApplication.java

Add a method named `displayDate()` and modify `main()` to call this method.

public static void displayDate() {  
 ApplicationContext context = new ClassPathXmlApplicationContext("date-format.xml");  
 SimpleDateFormat format = context.getBean("dateFormat", SimpleDateFormat.class);  
 try {  
 Date date = format.parse("31/12/2018");  
 System.out.println("Parsed Date: " + date);  
 } catch (ParseException e) {  
 e.printStackTrace();  
 }  
}

# 3. Output in Console

Parsed Date: Mon Dec 31 00:00:00 IST 2018

# 4. Troubleshooting

If there is a port conflict with Tomcat or the server doesn’t start, add the following to your `application.properties` file:

server.port=8081

# ✅ Conclusion

Successfully loaded SimpleDateFormat as a Spring bean from XML and reused it in the application using Spring’s IoC container.