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Uplifting the Village Community

For Private circulation only

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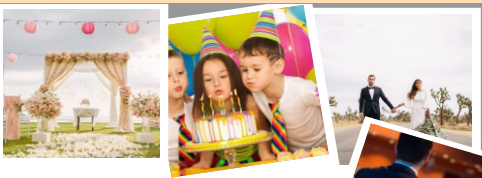
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### East Indian Calendar 2021 - Share a Recipe or Photo and win a Complimentary Calendar.

**A**fter a tremendous success with the East Indian Calendar 2020, MGP is gearing up to release the 2021 edition and this year our focus is Gaothans. The following Gaothans are shortlisted for 2021\* Cherai\* Culbavor\* Culvem\* Dongri\* Giriz\* Khotachiwadi\* Madh\* Manickpur\* Pali\* Ranwar\* Tamtalao\* Uran We are looking for enthusiastic people to join our calendar team. If you want to be apart of our team as a photographer or theme writer please call or message on 9820545302. The calendar will cover all community regions of Mumbai, Thane, Vasai and Raigad. And as usual we do have two exciting contests which can guarantee your name in the 2021 calendar. First up is the Recipe contest for Senior Citizens. This is a good opportunity for our community elders to showcase their cooking skills. Only East Indian Recipes and Photos of the same to be shared. A participant can send a maximum of 2 entries of an East Indian starter, main course, dessert, etc. Recipe of Suckling, Elijav, Kujit, Moile, Khuddi, Umber, Dried Bombil, Kurdhee chutney, Tendli carrot Pickle, Istook, Chinchini, Atola and Kulkul may not be considered as featured in Calendar issue 2020. Youngsters, please help your grandparents or elderly relatives to send in their recipes and photos. Shortlisted entries will be featured as well as be given one complimentary copy of the East Indian Calendar 2021 and name of the recipe contributor and his/her gaathan will be mentioned too. Next up is the Photo contest which is open for all. All you have to do is send in photographs that include any of the following features of the above mentioned Gaothans only: \*Gaathan Heritage homes\* Vintage

black and white photo\* Any important photo of great interest about the Gaathan\* Village square during festivities\* A Heritage or Prominent Holy Cross/Chapel\* Village decorations during Christmas.\* A group photo of the local active group\* Village Celebration or Procession. The shortlisted entries will be featured in the East Indian Calendar 2021 and the names of the contributors will also be mentioned on Calendar. The recipes and photos can be shared at eastindiancalendar@gmail.com. Last date for both the entries is 30th August. So get clicking.

### East indian communitiy fund supports in times of emergency

**A**fter the lockdown was imposed in March, Mobai Gaathan Panchayat decided to use some funds from East Indian Community Fund to support needy families in the Gaothans irrespective of Caste, Creed or Religion. And now even though the lockdown has been lifted many people who depend on daily wages for their livelihood are still facing financial trouble and therefore Mobai Gaathan Panchayat has decided to continue to help the less fortunate. A ration kit containing pulses and other essentials have already been given to 236 needy families. We have also received 48 Ration kits in kind. In case you wish to help, MGP will accept donations by cheques or by funds transfer only. For more details you may contact 9820545302 or email us at eastindianfund@gmail.com.

### Mobai Gaathan Panchayat Team - Service To Community Stands First

**M**GPG Core Action Team is reviewing the Performance of all Sarpanches basis report submitted since appointment. Sarpanches have been instructed to be active in their assigned area. Basis the Review, MGP will Renew the Services of our Sarpanch to Revive the Activity and Projects base\* The First List of Active Sarpanches are as follows Alphi Dsouza, Brendan Sutari, Bryce Rodricks, Clint Caston, Darryl Gonsalves, Elizabeth Dsouza, Joseph Dmello, Juliet Dsouza, Ramsey Rebello, Regan Mendonza, Romuald Dcruz, Samuel Dsouza. We will release the Second list soon basis review of Performance basis Report submitted to the MGP Team. Those who wish to join MGP as an Advisor, Project Coordinator, Sarpanch or Gaathan Coordinator can contact us on 9820087771/9820545302.

### Sermao - The East Indian Sermon

**O**ur churches are closed but masses are streamed live and the laity continue to be faithful. And to further our spiritual enlightenment Mobai Gaathan Panchayat has decided to launch Sermao; the East Indian word for Sermons. The sermons will be published on various important dates in the East Indian Religious calendar. These sermons may be given by our community priests, nuns, religious brothers, deacons and other religious members. The sermons may be given in East Indian, Marathi or English. MGP launched Sermao on 15th July to mark St. Bonaventure's feast. MGP Team thanks Fr. Botham Patil for his sermon based on St. Bonaventure Feast. Fr. Botham is from Uttan and is currently based at Rome, Italy for further studies. The Religious who would like to share their sermons can contact us at 9820545302.

# PARENTS DAY SPECIAL – ‘MAI PAI KURPECHI SAI’

**Rita Rodricks**

Mobai Gaothan Panchayat organized an online musical ‘Parents Day Special’

It was live on the 26th of July, 2020 at 7 p.m. on their ‘Mee East Indian’ YouTube channel

The opening prayer was recited in the East Indian dialect by our very own Rev. Father Donald Rodrigues, a versatile musician

It was dedicated to parents and grandparents so we had children and parents joining in

There were Fifty-Six Power Packed Performances in all

The singing, dancing, acting and recitation kept us all enthralled

There were solos, duets, instrumentals, skits, recitations and group participation

It was a plethora of entertainment that kept us tuned in

A special hymn ‘Sant Annacha Ganna’ was sung by Raymond Creado and Ruby Dsouza

Finale was the St. Francis East Indian Beats from Vile-Parle led by the star performer Victor Misquitta

He sang ‘Mai Noko Mana Mothiachi Sokri’ composed by Thomas Pereira

‘Baiko Maji Baiko’ composed by Hector Tixeira

‘Sapna Maji Aagin Zali’ composed by Joseph Fonseca

He ended with ‘Baikocha Bail’ which was hilarious by far

Percy, George, Tyson, Thomas, Kenny and Stevenill are all part of the St. Francis East Indian Beats

With their East Indian music they sure had us all tapping and dancing on our feet

Thank you to all the sponsors for their unwavering support

Shout out to Bryce Rodricks and his team for putting in great effort

With over eight thousand views globally it sure was a roaring success

Make sure you tune in for the next event it definitely helps to de-stress!



# MGP'S 'MOBAI CHE HIREY' – MR. MOSES MICHAEL GOMES

On the 3rd of July, 2020, 'Mee East Indian' YouTube Channel hosted their very first live interview. The guest was the best none other than our very own Mr. Moses Michael Gomes, we needed to give him his due. Ashwin D'souza the host asked all the right questions with meaningful insights. The cinematographer, Nathan D'souza who excelled with the video recording, editing, sounds and lights.

Moses' parents Marceline and Michael welcomed him into this world on the 28th of February, 1959. He was the last sibling in a family of eight, a star in our universe who was going to glisten and shine. His primary education was in a Marathi medium (K.G. to Std.IV) Holy Cross School. Before attending secondary school Moses attended AV Class i.e. an Anglo Vernacular at Holy Cross High School (Std. V to X, XI Science at Holy Cross High School).

Moses continued his studies at Ismail Yousuf College taking a break doing a diploma in skills he got his B.Sc. degree in Physics because it was free. He also went on to do a course in Engineering from St. John's College which held him in good stead we can see. Fr. Vincent Gonsalves has been credited as his mentor and guided him to a great length. Mrs. Jean Moses his wife has been his avid supporter and pillar of strength.

Moses started off as a 'grave digger' and a 'Table Boy' in the Parish Presbytery. He then went on to be a Peon, Lab Assistant, and Junior Clerk at the Holy Cross Parish School as a substitute on a salary of Three Hundred and Fifty Rupees a month without getting weary. He was also a hand cart pusher, a tuition tutor, sold crackers, did typing jobs for advocates and Premiere Automobile Ltd. Contractors. He supplied crockery for weddings and parties, was a musician who played for weddings and funerals and a part time mandap(venue) decorator.

He also ventured into construction of old houses with Fr. Vincent Gonsalves as his guarantor. He learnt to read RCC plans as part of his work he was a quick learner. He assisted other parishioners to conduct free tuition classes for the under privileged parishioners. He also served as a Typing Tutor in the Parish in his early years.

In 1979, Moses started a Kindergarten in his family house with his wife and sister with just thirteen students. Today he is the C.E.O. of Franciscan Nursery, Michael High School and Marceline Junior College which has more than Eight Thousand Five Hundred students. In 1986 Moses started the 'Catholic Education Society' to run the education institutions. The school has won accolades, trophies and medals for being the best in the field of education.

On the 5th of September, 2012, Mrs. Jean Gomes was awarded the National Award for the best teacher for the year 2011 by the President of India, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee. Mrs. Jean Gomes credits her spouse Moses for supporting her in completing her studies. Free education has been provided to the underprivileged Catholic community from K.G. to Std. XII (Arts, Science and Commerce) and provides scholarships for 200 students who are achievers irrespective of caste or creed which is a great relief. Education for all and All for Education is Moses' firm belief.

The alphabet 'T' is his favorite because it governs our 'Thoughts' which can be good or bad, positive or negative. He believes in hard work, education and utilizing our talents in order to stay physically and mentally active. Savvy Mendonca, his daughter says her father is a rock solid man without fear. He has taught her 'Patience' and has always been there for her.

**Rita Rodricks**



## MGP'S 'MOBAI CHE HIREY' – MR. MOSES MICHAEL GOMES

Moses' future plans include a Home for the aged and a College Institution

A Visionary who realized his dreams through sheer grit and determination

At the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat East Indian Awards 2020 Moses was awarded 'East Indian Star of the year' with much cheer

He endorses fulfilling one's role within your family, spouse, siblings, community, parish and community about this he is very clear

'Moses Sir' the community is indeed very proud of you

May you achieve unlimited success in everything you do!

**Rita Rodricks**



# MGP PROJECTS

1.	Gaothan Voice	16.	East Indian Business Network
2.	Gaothan Restoration Project	17.	St.Gonsalo Garcia Chapel Project
3.	East Indian Conclave	18.	East Indian Merchandise
4.	East Indian Baazaar	19.	East Indian Community Fund
5.	East Indian Card	20.	East Indian Bhavan
6.	East Indian Dictionary	21.	International East Indian Community Council
7.	Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum	22.	East Indian Sanskriti Gaothan
8.	East Indian Calendar	23.	Gaothan Shakha
9.	East Indian Office	24.	East Indian Education Project
10.	Sarvajanik Krist Janmotsav	25.	The Kaka Baptista Project
11.	Mot Mauli Purcessao Yatra	26.	Gaothan Bachav Andolan
12.	Gaothan Games	27.	St.Gonsalo Garcia Promotion Project
13.	Reetin Reevaj	28.	East Indian Sann
14.	East Indian Foods Promotion	29.	East Indian Awards
15.	East Indian Dialect Mass	30.	East Indian Rally
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### Aple Riti Rivaaz

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### Continuing the legacy of our forefathers even today

**Averil Fernandes, Gundavli**

We celebrate the feast of St Ann and Joaquim on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July , the grandparents of our Lord Jesus and parents of Mother Mary, we dedicate this issue to our grandparents namely the original children of the soil. Sant Anna ani Joaquim cha Sann; that is how we remember our grandparents talk about the feast , we also have an East indian hymn dedicated to the grandparents of Jesus. Today all that we are , we owe to our forefathers and grandparents. So what makes our grandparents unique and what have they instilled in us that make us what we are today , a few words that come to mind are the uniqueness in the Jewellery , lands and farming, fishing , food, home remedies, barter system and business ,our language and our values.

#### Jewellery

I once remember telling my friend that I am an East Indian and she immediately asked me “Do you drink tea from a gold cup and saucer?”, I couldn't stop laughing and blushing at the same time but that made me realise how important jewellery is and was to our grandparents , the unique designs and pieces of art that they wore were not only an accessory but even a status symbol, be it daily use or an occasion, jewels were always important, to name a few the son kari, poth, mangalsutra, bangria, vaalya, wedding set etc were essentials for each and every bride. The women adorned themselves with beautiful necklaces, bangles and earrings daily . I once didn't wear earrings and my grandmother immediately told me to wear one and said that it is not ok for a young girl to be with bare ears. This clearly shows that our love for jewellery descends from our grandparents.

#### Lands

We are the children of the soil and we are so called because our grandparents toiled hard and treated land with the utmost respect, many of us still own acres of ancestral land in Bombay because our grandparents drilled it deep into our minds that the value of Land can only go up and owning Land is a blessing, our grandparents were farmers, fishermen, carpenters etc, they put their land to the best of use for their business and never sold land for a quick profit. Im sure most of you must remember how hard our grandparents worked although they had the option of making money by selling land but they never did and we need to remember the sacrifices and carry on their legacy by putting our land to good use and retaining what we own.

#### Food

The one thing that our grandparents enjoyed and had a great passion for is Food, I mean all the hardwork needed some reward and they found that in food right from simple sukka kardi to festive Dukracha Indial. Our grandparents surely knew their ingredients and flavours. They knew how to combine humble ingredients to make something special , they used the produce that they grew to its full potential. The utensils and equipment used for grinding masala, the chulla for roasting masala are still etched in my memory from my childhood. Today the Bottle masala is used by every household be it East Indian or not. The technique used for the handbreads, the fugias. Drinks like Kimad and our homemade wine are recipes that everyone looks for. The sweets like Killi cake, Thali sweet , Newris , Atola are all so unique and well balanced. I can go on and on about food and how rewarding each dish is and we owe all our love and passion for food to our grandparents.



# EAST INDIAN PUNCH

## The Mouthpiece of the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat

### Medicine

It is funny but the first medicine that I remember tasting as a child from my grandmother is KIMAD, I am serious , whenever we had a cold or cough, we had to take a spoonful of Kimad and it wasn't even virgin and it had doctors brandy in it with all the spices brewed to perfection topped with honey. It worked like a miracle. Part of our immunity being so strong are these home remedies, another one that comes to my mind is an almost raw gawti chicken egg with haldi and honey , so the egg was dipped in boiling water for about a minute and then cracked open , tipped into a small bowl with haldi and honey, I still have that till date for any kind of cough and cold. Phadki or alum mixed with haldi was out on wounds, a clove was used to cure tooth aches. Our grandparents were the only doctors we needed as children.

### Business and Barter

As we all know that we are the original inhabitants of Bombay and our grandparents worked really hard to get us to where we stand today. The trade skills that they possessed along with their hardwork and dedication made them successful. When they owned land , they used it for farming. They became carpenters and carvers when they had exquisite wood and skill. They became fishermen when they lived near the sea. Along with providing for their family, they also had this barter system that worked well for them, barter of grains for fish, fresh produce for cattle etc. They laid the foundation for us so that we work hard and know the value of work.

All in all, we have inherited jewels, land and talent from our grandparents but most importantly our values and ethics come from those humble and strong souls. Going to church , praying as a family and being God fearing human beings all of it comes from our grandparents. One phrase still echos in my mind from my grandmother “Anthrūn ashel tavdes paay pasrache”(Stretch your legs only as much as your bedsheet). This phrase has a deep meaning reminding us that we should spend only as much we can afford to , they never really believed in loans or credit system, everything they used was hard earned.

I hope you walk down memory lane while you read this issue and remember your childhood and your grandparents. If you still have your grandparents around don't forget to sit with them and write down their favourite recipes and hear few of their stories, eventually those are the jewels you will treasure.

**Averil Fernandes, Gundavli**

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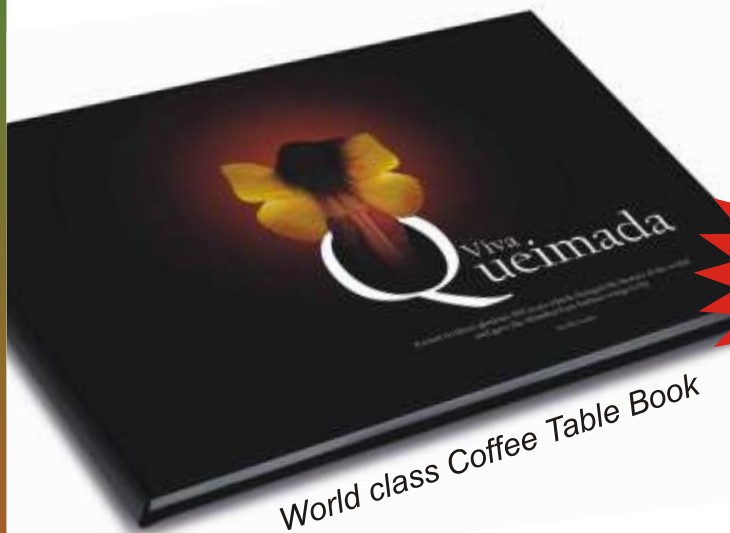
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