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Uplifting the Village Community

VOICE

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JARI AAYALI MAHAMARI TARI AGERA JHAAILA BHARI

Inspite of Pandemic East Indians Celebrate Agera



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Gleason Barretto - Old Kurla
Penny Miranda - Amboli
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EAST INDIAN NEW ISLAND

Your Community New Page

HOW TO SET UP YOUR OWN BUSINESS & LIVE YOUR DREAM

MGP Mobai Gaothan Panchayat organised an Interactive Live session on Entrepreneurship to hear success stories and experiences of those who have made it big in this field. Our Guest Speaker was Craig Fernandes from Lock&Stock.

Lock&Stock is a free mobile app that incentivizes students to keep their phones away, by rewarding them with offers, discounts, internships and scholarships

Craig is named one of the top 20 most influential entrepreneurs in the GCC region in 2020 and also been named as a Future Star at the Arabian Business awards in 2019 for his contribution to the education sector.

AGERA CHA SANN VAJILA DHANKYAN

Agera is the Harvest Festival of the East Indian Community and was celebrated on Sunday 4th October. The feast is usually celebrated on a large scale but due to Coronavirus the festivities were limited. But MGP ensured the community could partake in the Eucharistic celebration by organising an East Indian Agera Special Mass in the morning and the festivities continued with Agera Nite later in the evening.

The Agera Special Holy Mass in East Indian Marathi was celebrated by Fr. Marshal Lopes, Parish Priest of St. Jerome Church, Kashimira at 9 am accompanied by Swaranjali Choir from St. Anthony's Church Malvani (Kharodi)

Agera Nite was screened on Mee East Indian, aapla YouTube channel at 9 pm. St. Francis East Indian Beats provided non-stop entertainment for an hour and ended on a high note with our famous East Indian Masala.

MGP thanks Rev Fr. Marshall, Swaranjali Choir and St. Francis East Indian Beats for their support.

MOUNT MARY STATUE VISITS 6 BOATS AT GORAI

MGP's Mot Mauli Yatra may not have visited many goathans across Mumbai due to the Coronavirus restrictions this year. Instead the statue of our beloved Mother Mary visited six boats at Gorai. The Mot Mauli Yatra is following all the government guidelines of social distancing. The following six boats were blessed.

Aakash boat
Shanti doot boat
St. John boat
Suvarta boat
Lazarus Boat
St. Joseph Boat

May Mother Mary always continue to shower blessings upon our community.

EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY FUND SUPPORTS IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY

After the lockdown was imposed in March, Mobai Gaothan 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 Gaothan Panchayat has decided to continue to help the less fortunate.

A ration kit containing pulses and other essentials have already been given to 255 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 us at 9930229742 or email us at eastindianfund@gmail.com.

SPONSOR A CHRISTMAS HAMPER A Perfect Christmas Gift For A Needy Family

The Coronavirus Pandemic has affected many of our brethren and some have even lost their means of livelihood

Christmas is around the corner and some of our East Indian brothers and sisters will be finding it difficult to celebrate the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Therefore MGP has decided to put the East Indian Community Fund to use

MGP will support needy families with a Christmas Hamper of Rs.1000/-

We welcome our community groups and members to directly help needy families in their Goathans during Christmas.

Please show your love and contribute any amount above 100/-

The East Indian Community Fund is headed by our Chief Project Coordinator Sybil Rodrigues, Kalina. For more details contact us at 9930229742

Let Make This Christmas For Our Needy Families Special with Our Small Contribution

MGP'S 'GAOTHAN AVTAN'- 'MADH CHRISTIAN LANE GAOTHAN'

3rd October, 2020

Rita Rodricks

Come join me on our very first heritage walk through 'Madh Christian Gaothan' (village) on the 'Mee East Indian' YouTube channel

Conceptualized by Gleason Barretto, Videography by Ralph Ferreira and hosted by Alastair D'souza, a compere who is multi lingual

Our guest of honor is eminent personality, Mr. James Lobo who hosted the MGP team at his palatial residence 'Jameana'

The committee comprised of Jeffery, Arthur, Oliver and Jean from the Lobo family, Desmond and Helen D'souza, Clifford and Shireen Rodrigues and Jamaica D'lima

James is known for his generosity in helping the needy whether it is education, sports, medical, housing or the fisher folk who need finance for their equipment and boats

He also sponsors the East Indian Singing Competitions in the city and the gaothans which he readily promotes

Madh Island is a group of quaint, rural and picturesque fishing and farming villages in north Mumbai

It has the Arabian Sea on the west, and the Malad creek on the east making it easy for boats to ply

It is mostly inhabited by East Indian agriculturists and the Koli (fisher folk) community who fish to survive

They are strongly bounded by age old traditions, culture and heritage which they strive to keep alive

Madh Gaothan has produced Freedom Fighters, dedicated Priests and Nuns; national level sports stars and singing sensations over the years

The Gaothan also has a few heritage crosses which are more than a hundred years old, families get together to celebrate 'Cross Feast' in the month of May amidst a lot of cheers

St. Bonaventure Church was constructed in the early 16th Century by the Portuguese Franciscans on the Erangal Beach

It is celebrated on the second Sunday in January with a noisy fair which is within reach

The Feast which celebrates the Baptism of Jesus Christ is also known as 'Baravi Cha Sann'

Pilgrims celebrate this first feast of the year by merriment, frolic and fun

It is an annual reunion of the East Indian community from the city and the gaothans who attend the Feast some commuting by Reklas/Tongas (horse carriages), bullock carts or even by boats

After attending the mass in church they spend the day having an outdoor picnic in the fields nearby cooking their food on an open fire with family comparing notes

Legend has it that St. Bonaventure grants you whatever you cherish

From my personal experience after ten years my daughter was born it was my mother's wish

'Our Lady of the Sea' is a hundred and fifteen years old heritage Parish Church is along the way

The Feast is celebrated with great aplomb on the second Sunday in May

John Lobo the choir master for forty years sang in Latin and in the East Indian Marathi dialect

He trained a girl every year for the Veronica chant during Lent in every aspect

The Madh Gaothan celebrates East Indian Feasts like Intruz on the Sunday before Lent, St. Bonaventure on the 15th of July, Agera (Harvest Festival) on the first Sunday in October with devotion, traditional food, drink, music and dancing on these occasions

They have two to three local East Indian Brass Bands in attendance with all the villagers joining in for all their celebrations

The folks in Madh Gaothan are extremely hospitable and welcoming

Please feel free to join in their celebrations by singing and dancing!



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91 Gaothans! One East Indian Festival!

AGERA – The Harvest Festival of the East Indian Community

*MGP Team thanks all Parish Priests, Associations and social workers who made this possible inspite of the pandemic

*What many thought was impossible we have together made it possible

List of Gaothans who confirmed Agera Celebrations

Acton - Vasai	Kalina Big village	Old khar - Khar
Agashi Mangla - Virar	Kandivali - Gaothan	Old Kurla - Kurla
Agashi Kumbharwada - Virar	Kanjur Lower Pakhadi	Oshiwara Gaothan
Aldea - Uttan	Kanjur Upper Pakhadi	Pakhadi - Parle
Amboli - Andheri	Kantwadi - Bandra	Pali - Naigaon
Andheri - Andheri	Kashegaon - Kashimira	Palli - Bandra
Bamanpuri - Andheri	Kevni - Amboli	Panchghar - Manori
Bamanwada - Sahar	Khajori wadi - Uttan	Papdy Village - Vasai
Bangli Village - Vasai	khallai - Kirol	Parle - Parle
Bazar Road - Bandra	Kharodi - Malavni	Poinsur - Kandivali
Bhandarwada - Gorai	Killabundar - Vasai	Pond - Parle
Big Carpentry - Vasai	Kirol -Kirol	Rathodi - Malavni
Big Giriz - Vasai	Koldongri - Andheri	Sahargaon - Sahar
Chakala - Andheri	Koloveri - Kalina	Santacruz - Santacruz
Chapel Road - Bandra	Kumbharwada - Manori	Satmai Village - Sandore Vasai
Chimbai - Bandra	Kumbharwada - Vasai	Shepali pakhadi - Gorai
Church pakhadi - Gorai	Lepora Street - Bhayendar	Shire - Uttan
Church pakhadi - Sahar	Lower koliwada - Gorai	Small Carpentry - Vasai
Cross Garden - Bhayendar	Madh Christian village - Madh	Small Giriz - Vasai
Culbavor - Kurla	Malavni Gaothan	Suttar pakhadi - Sahar
Culvem - Gorai	Mandli Street - Bhayendar	Talzen , mulzen pakhadia' - Gorai
Dongri - Uttan	Mandpeshwar - Borivali	Tape - Amboli
Eksar - Poinsur	Manickpur - Vasai	Upper koliwada - Gorai
Ghodbandar - Ghodbandar	Manori koliwada	Vairala pakhadi - Gorai
Golibar - Santacruz	Marol - Andheri	Vakola Gaothan
Gomes Street - Bhayendar	Marve - Malavni	Valnai (Orlem) Gaothan
Gundavli - Andheri	Mota Gaon - Uttan	Versova Gaothan
Halawar pakhadi - Gorai	Muddhan pakhadi - Gorai	
Hall Village - Kurla	Mulgaon - Vasai	
Juhipada - Gorai	Naupada - Kurla	
Juhu Gaouthan No.2	Navghar - Uttan	
Juhu Gaouthan No.3	New Giriz - Vasai	

MGP - Protect! Promote! Preserve!



EAST INDIAN PUNCH

The Mouthpiece of the East Indian Community

JARI AAYALI MAHAMARI TARI AGERA JHAAILA BHARI

Gleason Barretto - Old Kurla

Inspite of Pandemic East Indians Celebrate Agera

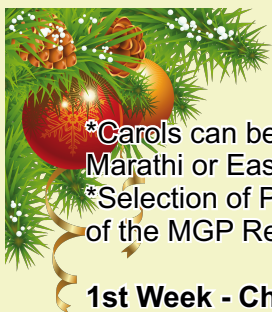
Anything is possible if you try and do your very best. This year's Agera was a true testimony of this liner. In the current situation many Community members thought that this year Agera would not be celebrated as per our tradition. Exactly a month before the actual day, the MGP Team started brainstorming on possible options to ensure the traditional festival was observed, inspite of the pandemic. We connected with as many Gaothans to observe this tradition in their own small way keeping the pandemic restrictions in mind

Great things can happen when Revival grassroot workers initiate their little bit to make things happen. Our team got connected with all Gaothan Representatives, though our network requesting them to ensure our traditional Agera feast was atleast observed, if not celebrated. An alternative strategy was also worked out in case local churches did not support blessing of the paddy. A MGP team member volunteered to transport and distribute paddy at all hubs selected by the MGP Agera Planning Team. MGP was pleased to get a positive response from many of our connects as all wanted that Agera revival momentum was not affected.

Each of our active team connects also contacted their local parish to request for blessing and a handful of them accepted our request. One Church even went to the extent of making special announcements about Agera and even MGP facilitating the harvest festival by providing paddy for blessing. A day before Agera the paddy which was transported to the city was first taken to a North Mumbai Parish in suburbs to be blessed by two priests. Surprisingly these priests had called us a few days prior to request for paddy for the parish **Agera** mass and our team thought it best to bless all the paddy to ensure the places where it was not blessed had nothing to worry. The Vasai diocese paddy distribution was facilitated by our MGP team member who collected the paddy from Mumbai.

Rising up to this great Harvest festival was the specially planned East Indian Marathi Mass by MGP. A choir from Kharodi came forward to support us and Fr. Marshall Lopez celebrated the Mass at the Kashmiri Church. The Agera Special East Indian Mass was premiered on the actual day in the morning and has been watched by more than 4000 families. The evening special was the Agera Celebration on our YouTube channel presented by St. Francis East Indian Beats, Vile Parle. For the first time ever, MGP encouraged the use of our Gaothan Holy Crosses for distribution of paddy.

A great learning for the MGP Team this Agera. If you have a passion to revive nothing can stop you. Its hard to believe how things happened in an unexpected way and was more of a miracle. Agera was celebrated in 91 Gaothans this year, a number hard to believe in these challenging times of the pandemic. Our Agera Team did their very best to network and ensure the traditional harvest festival of the East Indian Community, Agera was not forgotten. Special thanks to all those who made this happen and we are sure Agera will get bigger each passing year. MGP, a group popularly known for its Revival has once again shown it's potential to make things happen.



CHRISTMAS CAROL NITE MGP Special Christmas Weekends

*Carols can be performed in English, Hindi, Marathi or East Indian

*Selection of Performances at the sole discretion of the MGP Review Team

1st Week - Children Special

Only Children below 15 years

Date of premiere - Saturday, 28th November 2020

Last date for entries - 16th November

2nd Week - Instrumental and Bands Special

Solo performance, Beat Groups and Brass Bands

Date of premiere - Saturday, 5th December 2020

Last date for entries - 22nd November

3rd Week - Adults and Seniors

Above 15 years of Age till 99 Years

Date of premiere - Saturday, 12th December 2020

Last date for entries - 29th November

4th Week - Choirs and Groups

Date of premiere - Saturday, 19th December 2020

Last date for entries - 6th December

For Sponsorships and details contact

8898178889/9820087771

You may send your entries at

mee.eastindian@gmail.com

MGP - Promote Protect Preserve

On Mee East Indian YouTube Channel

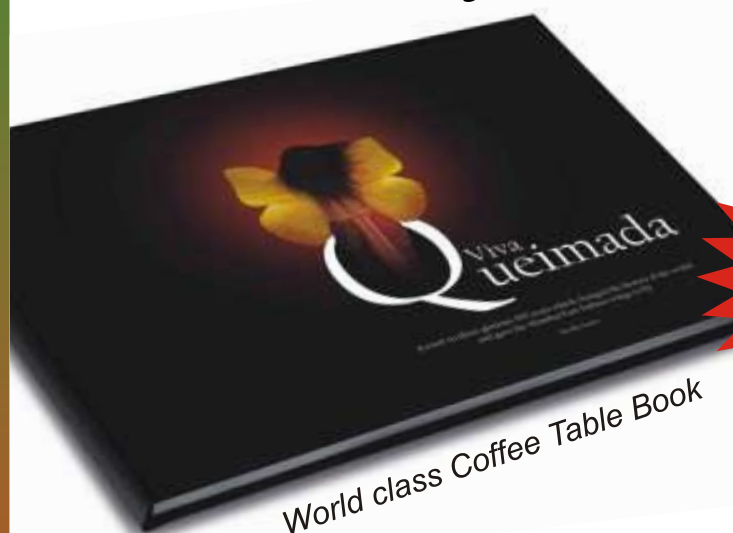
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