A Monthly Bulletin for the Villages, Gaothans and Koliwadas of Mumbai, Thane, Vasai and Raigad District



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Uplifting the Village Community

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VOICE गावठण वॉईस

One Virion!

GAOTHAN VOICE FEB 2022

One Voice!

The East Indian Magazine

One Village!

Email:eastindianvoice@gmail.com

INTRUS GAJVOON KOREZMA PALITAUN PASCU CHA SAN DANKYAN GAJVITAUN Time to Revive Lenten Traditions



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News in Pictures

MOBAICHI ASLI BHUMIPUTRA









Composer - Royston Dsilva

Singers - Royston Dsilva, Clifton Colaco, Collet Pereira, Charlotte Dmello & Aloma Alex

Music By - Nimbu Pani Studio

Performed By - Collet Pereira, Charlotte Dmello, Aloma Alex, Silviya Rodriguez, Sandra Dsilva, Pushpa Pereira, Vinita Alex, Pamela Alex, Glaynes, Hilary Correia, Richard Mathana, Clifton Colasco & Royston Dsilva

Video By - Nimbu Pani Studios

Support & Coordination - Alphi Dsouza, Arnold Rodrigues & Gleason Barretto

Special thanks to Friars of Our Lady Of Fatima Church, Kirol

Special thanks to Jacinto D'souza

Sponsored By Melvyn Fonseca - Manori & Fugiyas - Goa



MGP THANKS THE EAST INDIAN CALENDAR 2022 TEAM

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EAST INDIAN NOTICE BOARD

Announcements for the East Indian Community

MOBAICHI ASLI BHUMIPUTRA

Written by - Royston Dsilva, Kirol

Aiktla ashel ya ukanna soda manjhe milel Elaiteen impossible bhi I'm possible bolel Ischoola band kamghar parle tand nai yevjila ya vakat yel Ischoolache liisaav, work from home online rasta davrel Taisach competition band zailote vatla sanskrutti apli bashel Pun yo onlinecha zamana aila competition bhi online dishel

Mobaile chi amhi gaavkari na mobaich amcha gaav Kunbi koli bhandari na agri amhi sagli nahin na bhaav Gana ya gaitav gheun shi jesus cha naav (2) Mobaichi asli bhumiputra apu eastindian haav Eastindian raghat amche angan marte ghaav Khatav apu buzun rota nai khat te shile paav(2)

Deshache swantrasati zuzlote kaka baptista apla
Paila eastindian sant gonsalo gracia kaisa isru apu tyala
Laal mirchi bottle masala chavin chav eastindian jevnala
Maga takite pizza hamburger tya pasta chya nashtyala
Indyal moyel vare pole kai latgtan te chavila
Bomblachi chatni Sorpotel roche zabar te chaknyala

Ya lugryan eastindian asturi distai eastindian bavli Barbie doll bhi amche samni ekdum fikki parli Lugra hai eastindian zatichi ha ha shaan apli(2) Lugryache kamizan purush bhi sobtai hero asli Lugryachi mask anni chatri vapritan aazkal haali Laal laal lugryan varumai distai jaisi gulabachi kali(2)

Elaitee ischalan zatav punai isarlu eastindaian basha Eastindian basha var kartav garav vajitav dhol tasha Umbracha pani kaartav apu vazvun eastindian baja Vakat zailyavar ghumata varti kartav apu maja San solyala Marun jamblachi pek na lavun deck nacha Khavun piun fulltu dhamal kartu pun karit nai kavas kaja.

Tumala bagh unshi kaleez dhak dhuk dhak dhuk kartai kai Ekot nachtan natundi potunde nachtan amai na appai Natalcha San paskucha San aisach housheshi amhi gajilai Mot maulichi amavar hames hai sai Yi mahamari anshi galav yach amcha mangna hai Chala chala amche sai tumhi bhi bola corona bye bye

CHACH OF SWEET POTATO & SAGO

(Goracha Ratalucha)

This is an East Indian dessert which is made with sweet potatoes on Maundy Thursday. This is also called by East Indians as Goracha. My mother made this every year on Maundy Thursday and we loved it. The next day being Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence.

Ingredients

500 Grams Sweet Potatoes- cut into thick Cubes 1/2 Cup Sago (Sabudana) 350 Grams Jaggery (Adjust accordingly) 1 Big Coconut 1 Teaspoon Cardamom powder A Pinch of Salt

Method

Wash the sabudana in water then soak it in one cup of water. Keep this covered for an hour.

Wash the sweet potatoes well and then lightly scrape off the skin. After this, cut the sweet potatoes into thick cubes. Immerse the cut potato in water to prevent them from discolouring.

Extract the milk of one whole coconut and separate the thick and the thin coconut milk. To extract the thick coconut milk, grate the fresh coconut and add two cups of warm water to it. Blend this in a blender and then extract the thick coconut milk. Similarly, add another 2 cups of warm water to the same blended coconut and blend well to get the thin milk.

To Make the Chach

In a deep bottomed pan add the 2 cups thin extract of coconut milk, salt and the sweet potatoes. Place this on medium low flame and let it cook stirring in between.

When the sweet potatoes are nearly done then add the Sabudana and give it a stir, let this cook again on medium low flame till done and the sweet potatoes are fully cooked.

Now add the jaggery and let it melt. Add the thick extract of coconut milk, cardamom powder and give it stir, simmer for a minute or two and then switch off the flame.

Serve into large bowls and enjoy warm!!

Recipe by - Sybil Rodrigues, Kolivery Kalina

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REETIÑ REEVAZ

East Indian Culture and Tradition

EAST INDIAN LENTEN TRADITIONS

Cursacha Vaat – Way of the cross

Cursacha Vaat has a mix of Portuguese and Marathi language. In Portuguese Cross is known as Cruz and in Marathi Way is known as Vaat. The Cursacha Vaat is conducted at Church or in the Gaothans. The Holy Crosses at junctions and entrances were installed to protect the East Indian villages centuries ago. These Holy Crosses are visited during Korezma for the Cursacha Vaat. Gaothans residents assemble in large numbers and participate in this prayerful journey.

Papiyas – Special Prayers and Hymns at Lenten time

Papiya is a Marathi word which means Penitents. Papiyas or Devaats as they are called, are a group of devout christians who move about from cross to cross at the dead of night, chanting prayers and imploring Christians to wake up from their sleep, get down on their knees and pray and ask for God's forgiveness. (Bhavando, utha tumche neezemanche, deemi ghala, lazaar kara, ek Amche Bapala......) These groups become active from the Sunday night before Palm Sunday and their activity culminates in a crescendo on Maundy Thursday (The night of Jesus' Agony on the Mount of Olives). Papiyas organize themselves into groups of 10 to 20 persons, sometimes more. They shroud themselves in black or blue or brown tunics with a hood so they cannot be easily recognized. Their lamentable chants in tones similar to Gregorian chants are in East Indian dialect. Listening to their mournful chants can be a hair raising experience and can send shivers down ones spines. especially when one hears them at the dead of night.

Tradition has it that Papiyas from one village would visit the neighbouring village and vice versa. No two groups could come face with each other. If both groups had the occasion to travel and would cross paths, then the group that spotted the passing group would hide behind the bunds (baands) of the field till the other group passed by. People of the neighbourhood would keep a kettle of hot tea at the foot of the cross for the Papiyas. Papiyas are representative of the apostles Peter, James and John who accompanied Jesus to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prayed and during the 'Agony' on the Mount of Olives.

Krist Puran – Special Hymns for Good Friday

The Good Friday Service Preparation and Veneration is managed by the East Indian Community Member Church Groups called Irmous(In Portuguese for Brothers and Sisters of Christ), Konfrat(In Portuguese for Confraternity) or Sodality. During the Service and veneration the East Indian Community members sing the Krist Puran (means sacred writings of ancient times) is a centuries old document on the Passion of Christ.

Reetiñ Reevaj - The East Indian Culture Guide is an Initiative by Mobai Gaothan Panchayat. This project involves revival of East Indian Culture and Tradition thorough various initiatives like Gaothan Voice write-ups, special book release and videos on our YouTube channel - Mee East Indian.

GAOTHAN VOICE - ADVERTISEMENT RATES

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EAST INDIAN PUNCH

The Mouthpiece of the East Indian Community

INTRUS GAJVOON KOREZMA PALITAUN PASCU CHA SAN DANKYAN GAJVITAUN

Time to Revive Lenten Traditions

Gleason Barretto - Old Kurla

Intrus-Introze is celebrated across all Gaothans and generally organised by local groups or by families. There are various versions of this pre Lenten celebration which begins on a Saturday before Ash Wednesday. MGP is working on a plan for the Introze revival on a Gaothan level and also reviewing on a possibility of a common celebration. As per some village tradition the men generally cooked for the evening and all the locals were to bring their own plates. The celebration has now evolved in some Gaothans with women cooking from the early morning with a Get Together filled with dance, music and games in the evening.

Korezma is the Lenten season and there are religious traditions which are followed. Many stay away from alcohol, smoking and meat. It's a time for prayer and penance with the Kursacha Vaat (Stations of the Cross) and Paas (Passo Service). The Parish Irmous/Confratenity/Sodality display various images on the passion of Christ. Some food dishes are specially prepared at Lenten time by the East Indian Community. Boiled gatwaals(black eyed beans) is on sale after the passo service at Church.

Devaats or Papiya singers visit various Gaothans late at night to Sing the Papiya hymns. These groups of people visit the holy crosses singing and praying for forgiveness. Locals sponsor special Tshirts for the group as well as buses for travel. In the Gaothans also the locals make arrangements for tea. Traditionally these groups visited other Gaothans to sing and pray in the East Indian dialect.

Ramacha Paas is the special passo service on Palm Sunday. Coincidentally Ram Navmi also falls on the same day or around Palm Sunday. Ramo in Portuguese means Branch and the palms from branches have the right connect. The evening passo service has a special sermao in East Indian followed by a procession of Jesus carrying the cross and Mother Mary. Before the procession we also have the hymn, "Hey Paha" sung by a parishioner representing Veronica. The statues meet to reflect the event when Mother Mary meets Jesus carrying the cross with the hymn, "Dukhi Mauli" sung in the background. The service is generally organised by the Irmous or Confratenity.

Krist Puran is a hymn sung on Good Friday in the East Indian dialect. Some parishes have stopped singing this meaningful hymn based on the passion of Christ. There is a need to urgently revive this hymn as it needs to be sung after the Good Friday service and during the veneration which goes on till midnight. Also a need to have re-printed copies of the Krist Puran is being worked out by the MGP team. MGP is also working out on an initiative to train youngsters for this hymn as a step towards revival of traditions amongst generation next.

Pascu Cha Sann or Easter is the time for celebration after 40 days of prayer and penance. Groups and families generally have a celebration after the Easter vigil service. While the Easter egg has made an entry recently the traditional sweet still rules in many East Indian homes. The food speciality is generally the duck moile, Fugyas, varyas, roast, sarpatel and vindyal. In the afternoon we have the house blessing by the head of the family followed by a family meal. The evenings are generally reserved to meet family and friends. The seniors still miss the traditional house blessing done by the priest which has now been stopped in almost all parishes.

Reviving Lenten Traditions may take us years or a decade but we at MGP plan to take a step-by-step approach. It's a challenging future but we at MGP will do our best. While some parishes have stopped or limited religious traditions we will connect with the parishes or the hierarchy requesting for a revival with an alternate plan after a given timeline. MGP team will be activated this year and we hope to take a small step towards the revival of our Lenten Traditions pre-Lent, During Lent and post-Lent. Looking forward to your prayers in this initiative to help us get support from the Religious and the East Indian Community

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EAST INDIAN AGENDA GOVT AND MUNICIPAL

CENTRAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT

- 1. Simplified OBC certificate process for East Indian Community
- 2. East Indian Representative to be appointed with Special representation in the State on behalf of the Sons-of-Soil community
- 3. Special job reservations for East Indian community in public and private corporates
- 4. Housing Quota on MHADA projects for East Indians
- 5. Simplified repair permissions for Gaothans
- 6. Special permissions for time limit to be given for Umbrachapani and Christmas midnight mass
- 7. No Municipal Property and Water Tax for all houses in the Gaothans owned before 1960
- 8. East Indian Bhavan in Bombay-Thane-Vasai and Raigad
- 9. An East Indian Community welfare fund to be instituted through funds allocated from land income on East Indian owned acquired lands like airport, BKC, University, industrial and infrastructure projects
- 10. Manori-Gorai-Uttan Tourism Plan and Bridge Project to be scrapped
- 11. East Indians Day to be observed and recognised by the Government
- 12. Cremation grounds to be allotted at all locations with a Christian majority
- 13. Regular special trains to be started from Bombay to Velankanni twice a week
- 14. Gaothan expansion policy to be implemented by allotting lands towards East Indian community housing projects in lieu of land unavailable around gaothans
- 15. Ground plus SITU development to be permitted in Gaothans
- 16. Specific DC Rules for planned development in Gaothans
- 17. Special Tour subsidies for Travel to Holy Places and Pilgrimage Shrines

Municipal Corporation

- 1. Regularisation of all Holy Crosses in the East Indian gaothans and their vicinity
- 2. Harassment by BMC officers to be immediately stopped during house repairs
- 3. East Indian Municipal Corporator to be nominated to represent the city basis elections amongst the East Indian Community
- 4. No tax to be charged for gaothan homes
- 5. Heritage homes in gaothans to be given a special incentive for maintaining their structure.
- 6. East Indian Food stalls to be approved for each Municipal ward
- 7. Space to be allotted for Community Centre at each East Indian Gaothan
- 8. Gaothan Infrastructure to be improved
- 9. Roads bylanes and street furniture within the gaothans to be designed to maintain the village look
- 10. Local community association heads to be authorised to suggest Gaothan civic projects

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News in Pictures

INTRUS - INTROZE The East Indian Carnival





Kharodi Andheri





Vakola Madh





Vasai Juhu

-7-

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GAOTHAN ADS VILLA

GAOTHAN VOICE FAMILY

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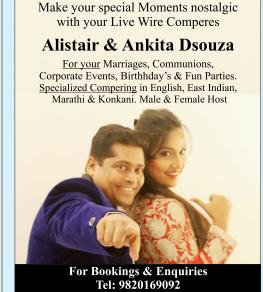
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