

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



mgpmbai@gmail.com  
Mobile - 9820087771

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Uplifting the Village Community

VOICE

गावठण वॉईस

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One Vision !

www.mobaikar.com

One Voice !

The East Indian Magazine

One Village !

Email: eastindianvoice@gmail.com

## WANNAH KARAA LAARKE JAAVAYLA MAJAA KARAA SANJAO CHE SANAALA Reviving the feast of San Jaõ Bautis



### East Indian Community Fund Support the Needy of the Community

- \*Support for Education, Medical and Emergencies
- \*Beneficiary names will not be published
- \*Donations by cheques or by funds transfer only
- \*No cash contributions will be accepted.

#### Bank account details:-

Account Name - East Indian Community Fund  
Bank name - Citizen Credit Co-op Bank Ltd., Vakola Branch  
Savings Account number - 2090162000015624  
IFSC code - CCBL0209016

For more details Call Sybil on 9930229742 or email us at eastindianfund@gmail.com

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### SAN JAO CHA SANN



#### East Indian Community Fund

Community Support towards Education, Medical and Other Emergencies

#### MGP Education kits worth Rs.250+

2 Long books, 2 pens, Drawing book, oil pastel, plastic crayon, colour pencil, wax crayon, Scale, Pencil, Eraser & Sharpener

Kalina -	16	Kurla -	28
Kurla Hall -	18	Kanjur -	5
Kirol -	5	Orlem -	5
Poisar -	3	Vile Parle -	20

#### Total - 100 Kits

An initiative by MGP as a part of Shikshan - MGP's Education Project

### SAN JAO CHA SANN - JAAVAYCHA SANN

#### The East Indian Tradition on St. John the Baptist Feast

- \*San Jao Cha San is celebrated by the East Indian Community on 24th June, Feast of St. John the Baptist or on the Sunday after the feast day.
- \*This feast is also celebrated as Jaavaycha Sann (New Son-in-Law Day)
- \*On the eve of the feast day the newly-wed couple visit the Bride's residence and are welcomed with fanfare
- \*On the feast day the New wed couple visits the Bride's Parish for mass in traditional attire not forgetting the gold worn and gifted at their wedding
- \*The couple are served with traditional East Indian Sweets like Letri, Laapsi, Mugoori, nevris after mass at the bride's residence
- \*The Bride's parents cook a special lunch buffet with varyas, fugias, moile, fugaath, wedding pickle, wedding rice, roast, vindyal and sarpatel for the newly weds
- \*The Newly Wed couple then visit the nearest well or pond for a dip and in some places they also wash the feet of the newly weds
- \*The Newlyweds are taken in a procession with the East Indian Brass Band

We at MGP are compiling more data on the feast for our planned historical project - Reetin Reevaj, A Cultural and Traditional Guide for our East Indian Community.

To help us with more information, suggestions and to join our team please call 9820545302/9820087771 or email us at mgpmobai@gmail.com



# EAST INDIAN PUNCH

The Mouthpiece of the East Indian Community

**WANNAH KARAA LAARKE JAAVAYLA  
MAJAA KARAA SANJAO CHE SANAALA**

*Reviving the feast of San Jaõ Bautis*

*Gleason Barretto, Old Kurla*

Special traditional feasts, just evaporate with time in this modern world and so there is a need for revival. The San Jao Sann (the feast of St. John the Baptist) is celebrated on 24th June or on a Sunday immediately after the feast day. This feast is also celebrated as Zaavaycha Sann (newly wed son-in-law day) by the East Indian Community. The San Jao feast is linked to the Baptism and the water connect hence the celebrations happen at a water body, mostly a well. The youngsters used to celebrate at the Community well or pond and jump into it as a part of the celebrations

Awareness and promotion of this festival is a part of our plan to revive our culture and tradition. On the eve of the feast day the newly wed couple is welcomed at the bride's home. On the feast day the newly wed couple visits the bride's parish dressed in traditional attire. After they return to the bride's home the son-in-law is given "Maan" (respect) to the fullest with a rich spread of a traditional East Indian Lunch. The newly wed couple then visit the local community well or pond accompanied by music by the East Indian brass band. At the pond the feet of the newly wed are washed as a part of the ritual. The newly wed couple along with their relatives then return to the bride's home as the celebrations continue. During the 1st year after marriage the newly wed couples visit the bride's home for all major festivals like Christmas, Easter and the Parish feast.

New ways to celebrate San Jaõ feast in these modern times need to be reviewed and initiated. With the shortage of wells and water bodies, a celebration at resort with a swimming pool, by groups or families could be a great way to celebrate. Local groups or associations could organise a common brass band for all newly wed couples to be taken around the village as a part of the celebration. The costs of the bands could be borne by the local associations or contributions from the families of the newly weds. The families of the bride to invite their newly wed couple to revive this East Indian celebration. This traditional celebration is still practiced in Dharavi both region of Manori, Culvem, Gorai, Uttan, and Bhayander

Joyous celebrations of the San Jaõ feast has seen a dip year on year and it's time to gear up this celebration. We need to do our best and also initiate projects within the Gaothans with the water theme. Each gaothan could revive or restore a community well or pond for the traditional Umbrachapani and the San Jao Cha Sann. Cleaning of community wells which can come to the rescue during water emergencies should be encouraged. Gaothans often have water issues due to low pressure or other technical reasons and a bore well in each Gaothan can surely help. Water bodies in and around Gaothans need to be revived and restored to their original glory. Various government water-based schemes may be of great help to fulfil this revival and restoration plan.

Activities should be organised across Gaothans on this day. The local groups could take a procession around the Gaothans to celebrate the San Jao feast. There could be an evening of celebrations in the Gaothan square or a nearby venue to celebrate this festival for newly weds sponsored by the local group or the families of the newly weds. Youth can revive the gatherings at the community well or pond. If need arises an artificial well or pond could be created which can be used for community weddings and celebrations. Mobai Gaothan Panchayat has connected with its network across the gaothans to plan the revival of this celebration.

On the revival mode the community will face challenges for the celebration. This is a more challenging project than the revival of Agera. The revival of Agera was a true outcome of participation and support by local communities members and groups. MGP looks forward to the same for this festival with a target to reach a first basic step within 5 years and if there is success, we take a bigger step in 10 years. Every community activist and group will need to give their bit to revive this festival. The East Indian Community has seen a major revival on the culture and tradition scene in the last 10 years and Mobai Gaothan Panchayat (MGP) has surely played an important role with the support of activists and groups. Together let's revive San Jao Cha Sann and Zaavaycha Sann giving it a true East Indian Identity.



# MGP PROJECTS

## Initiatives for the East Indian Community

Sr. No.	Project Name	Brief
1	Gaothan Voice	Gaothan Voice is an East Indian Magazine released every month Gaothan Voiced first issue was based out of Juhu and launched in March 2003 The first issue on an all-Community level was launched on 1st March 2009
2	Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum	Kaka Baptists East Indian Museum was opened in May 2013 The Land for the Museum is owned by the family of Late Theresa Fernandes, Chuim The Museum is the first ever Museum dedicated to the East Indian Community across the world The Museum is located at Theresa Villa, Manori
3	East Indian Sann	East Indian Sann is an annual MGP fest with multiple events The events generally held are Awards, Food Festivals, Baazaars, Special days, Sports and more MG Annual Festival was started in 2010
4	East Indian Community Awards	The EICA – East Indian Community Awards is announced every year The Community members who make our community proud are presented with the Award The EICA 2020 was held at Hotel Avion, Vile Parle This initiative has heled MGP promote community members who have made our community proud
5	East Indian Dictionary	The First Ever Dictionary in the East Indian Dialect The Dictionary was launched by James Lobo, Madh Gaothan at Erangal Church Dictionary will be released at an interval of 2-5 years with an updated list
6	East Indian Community Fund	East Indian Community Fund was launched to support in Education, Medical and Other Emergencies During Covid this Fund facilitated the distribution of more than 250 Ration Kits
7	East Indian Baazaar	The East Indian Baazaar aims at being a Market place for East Indian Specialty in Food and Art The Baazaar is now available at a Venue, Online and On Wheels Baazaars have been organized at Bandra, Orlem and Vakola
8	East Indian Conclave	The East Indian is organized annually to discuss way forward for the community The Conclave is held at Hotel Avion, Vile Parle
9	Mot Mouli Purcessao Yatra	Mot Mauli Purcessao Yatra consists of Visit of the Status of Mount Mary at our Gaothans A Procession is also organized to revive memories of the first procession from Mahim Church to Mount Marys Bandra



# MGP PROJECTS

## Initiatives for the East Indian Community

Sr. No.	Project Name	Brief
10	East Indian Calendar	East Indian Calendar with a special theme is releases every year The Calendar is proudly placed on the walls of East Indian Homes The Calendar has been much appreciated in India and across the world
11	St.Gonsalo Garcia Chapel	St.Gonsalo Garcia Chapel will be the first religious structure dedicated to our Community Native Saint The Chapel will be built with a special connect theme to the East Indian Community
12	East Indian Bhavan	East Indian Bhavan is aimed to Promote East Indian Culture and Tradition There will be around 10 special attractions in the Bhavan MGP was one of the first groups to promote the plan for the East Indian Bhavan MLA Ameet Satam was the first MLA to talk about the East Indian Bhavan in the Assembly House
13	Mee East Indian YouTube Channel	Mee East Indian YouTube Channel if the official YouTube Channel of the East Indian Community Mee East Indian made History when more than 50,000 viewers watched the first East Indian Singing Competition LIVE
14	International East Indian Community Council	IEICC – International East Indian Community Council was started to create an International network of the East Indian Community Currently we have Network Presence in USA, UK, Germany, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Singapore, New Zealand and Australia
15	Reetin Reevaj	Reetin Reevaj is a Culture Guide on the East Indian Community This project will consist of a Book and will also be video-based
16	Sarvajanik Krist Janmotsav	Sarvajanik Krist Janmotsav is MGPs Christmas Festival dedicated to Kaka Baptista Various events and competitions are organized in this Festival
17	Gaothan Games	Gaothan Games are organized annually to promote Sports amongst the community The first Games edition was held at St.Andrew's School Grounds, Bandra The event has Gaothan teams participating in these Games with Athletics as well as traditional Games
18	East Indian Merchandise	East Indian Merchandise is an initiative to promote East Indian attire and specialty MGP has released special edition T Shirts and Mugs under this initiative
19	Shikshan - The Education Project	The Shikshan Project was launched to create awareness about Professions and Skills Specialist from various fields conduct seminars for the community
20	East Indian Sanskriti Gaothan	East Indian Sanskriti Gaothan aims to create a model Gaothan A visit to this site will recall memories of the Natives of the City MGP has approached the Government for land allotment

# East Indian Agenda

## Memorandum of the East Indian Community

### ARCHDIOCESE

1. Properties donated by East Indians should not be sold, if parish cannot develop or use for the betterment of the community, they must be returned back to the original owners
2. The Word "East Indian Catholic" to be written in remarks column without visit to archbishop's house to be done as per recommendation by local East Indian association heads or professionals
3. Halls and grounds provided for occasion to be given at discounted rates for East Indians
4. Special discounts and reservation of beds at Catholic Hospitals
5. Housing schemes for East Indians on vacant church properties and existing properties going for redevelopment
6. Preference to East Indians for jobs opportunities in the Parish, Church organisations and institutions
7. Mass and Hymns in the East Indian dialect every week
8. Land to be allotted for the East Indian Bhavan
9. Special East Indian Community Member to be appointed in the Parish Council to protect and preserve East Indian traditions and heritage
10. East Indians to be appointed on the finance and property committees
11. Stalls to be allotted at the Bandra Fair to the East Indian Community
12. St. Gonsalo Garcia Day to be made official and a Church in Bombay to be dedicated to the Saint
13. Church announcements should be made about activities organized by East Indian Groups
14. East Indian Associations to be given premises without hire charges for activities and meetings
15. Monthly open meets with the East Indian community and Bishops
16. Space to be provided for East Indian businesses on parish property
17. Ten percent of proceeds on hired premises to be allocated towards the East Indian Community welfare fund
18. Development projects/Monopoly for hired halls/quadrangles and grounds only to East Indian businesses
19. Halls Grounds and Awards to be dedicated to Cardinal Simon Pimenta in each parish with East Indian majority

### **EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS AND GROUPS**

1. Education support through scholarships and discounts in courses
2. Medical support through full or partial assistance
3. Ration scheme for poor East Indian families
4. Business network to be encouraged to promote East Indian businesses
5. East Indian food restaurant to be opened
6. East Indian Village office to be set up to assist locals in various projects and matters
7. Sports projects to be launched to promote talented youngsters
8. Signages to be installed at various East Indian gaothans giving information and history on the gaothan
9. Promotional books and CDs to be released to promote East Indian culture and tradition
10. Special and Exclusive East Indian Community Television and Radio Channel



# GAOTHAN ADS VILLA

## GAOTHAN VOICE FAMILY

### EDITORIAL TEAM

Alphi Dsouza - Vakola  
Gleason Barretto - Old Kurla  
Penny Miranda - Amboli  
Rita Rodricks - Bandra  
Sybil Rodrigues - Kalina  
Walter Murzello - Orlem  
Jamaica D'lima - Marve  
Candida Remedios - Vikhroli  
Britney Dharmal - Bandra  
Sharon Misquitta - Marol  
Karen D'souza - Poisar



**EAST INDIAN DIALECT**  
Advisors Russel Gonsalves - Versova  
Royston Silva - Kiroli

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**LAYOUT AND ILLUSTRATIONS**  
Shiv Mourya - Juhu Church

**CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**  
Benny Jacinto house, Kolivery village,  
next to Chris chinease, Kalina,  
Santacruz east, Mum - 29

### E-MAIL

eastindianvoice@gmail.com

### WEBSITE

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# AN APPEAL

Mobai Gaothan Panchayat (MGP) is happy to announce its initiative in building the first religious structure in the Diocese of Mumbai dedicated to our East Indian Native and Patron Saint..

## ST. GONSALO GARCIA CHAPEL Aaplaa GAAV! Aapla Devool!

Proposed site - any place within the Archdiocese of Bombay limits

### Highlights

- \*The First Religious structure in Bombay Archdiocese to be dedicated to our Native Saint.
- \*The Chapel is likely to be inaugurated in the year 2023.
- \*We look forward for Support from Experts (Designers, architects, Sculptors, fabricators, etc) in building this Chapel.
- \*Contributions by Cheque or in kind are welcome.
- \*We plan to get relics from Japan and promote pilgrimage to Nagasaki.
- \*Well known Altar designers to be a part of the project interiors.
- \*The boat on which the Chapel will be built will be made by a well-known boat maker.



### Bank details:

Account Name : ST GONSALO GARCIA CHAPEL

Bank Name : Bassein Catholic Coop Bank, Kalina Branch

Account type : Savings

A/C No : 032100100000792

IFSC Code : BACB0000032

Cheques favouring

**"ST GONSALO GARCIA CHAPEL"**

can be couriered at

Mobai Gaothan Panchayat,

C/o Alphi Dsouza,

A 601 Krishna Towers,

Vakola Village,

Santacruz East ,

Mumbai - 400 055.

For more details or to support contact

9820087771/9820545302

MGP - Promoting Native Devotions



**A MGP Project**

