

mgpmbai@gmail.com
Mobile - 9820087771

Public Trust Registration No: F-57349(MUMBAI)



GAOTHAN VOICE

Uplifting the Village Community

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One Village !

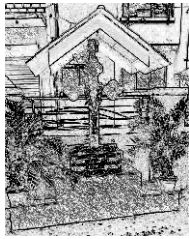
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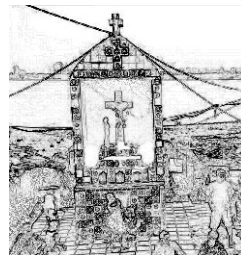
KHUROOS VANCHVA! KHUROOS BACHVA!

Let's Protect the Community Holy Crosses Erected before BMC's Existence



**1841 -
CULBAVOR CROSS -
KURLA**

**1875 -
WORLI VILLAGE
CROSS**



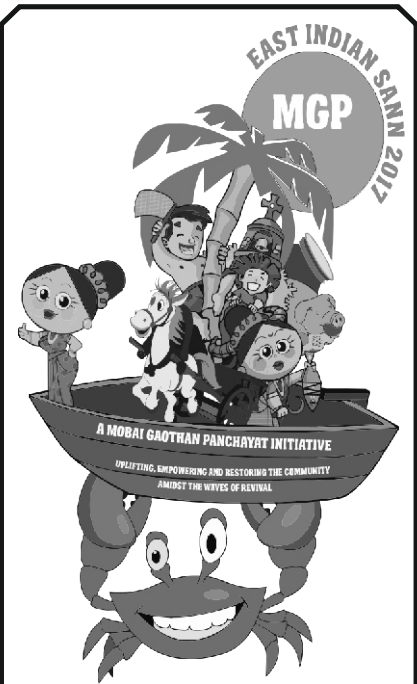
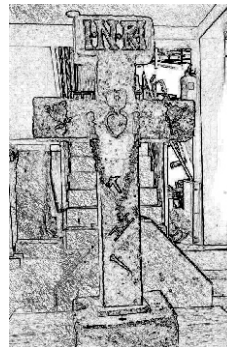
**1712 -
MISQUITTA FAMILY CROSS,
MATOSHREE - MIDC**



**BMC
ESTABLISHED
IN 1888**



**1821 -
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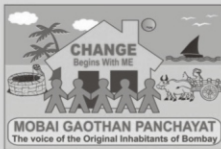
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The East Indian Advertisement Space

GAOTHAN VOICE FAMILY

EDITORIAL TEAM

Alphi Dsouza - Vakola
Denver Dsilva - Kurla
Sybil Rodrigues - Kalina Koloverly
Franco Patil - Sion
Averil Fernandes - Andheri



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LAYOUT AND ILLUSTRATIONS
Darryl Fernandes - Andheri

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Benny Jacinto house, Kolivery village,
next to Chris chinese, Kalina,
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E-MAIL

eastindianvoice@gmail.com

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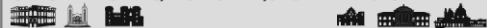
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EAST INDIAN APPEAL

Every Hand Matters ! Every Rupee Counts!

East Indian Museum

Promoting Culture and Tradition

Mobai Gaothan Panchayat (MGP) has been trying it's best for allotment of land for the East Indian Bhavan and this could take a couple of years or even decades. There is an urgent need to create awareness about our culture and the Museum is one great way. MGP has opened an East Indian Museum(3rd Phase) at Mobai Bhavan, Manori. The Basic Plan of the East Indian Museum had an estimated cost of around Rs.9 lacs and the Dream Project could cost much more. We appeal to you to help us in recovering costs for the 4th Phase to be released in May 2016. The List of planned additions to the Museum will be shared by our Museum Team soon.

You could support us in the following ways:-

Special Donors - Rs.10,000/-
(names will be mentioned at the Museum Entrance)
Memorial Sponsors - Rs.25,000/-
(photographs will be installed at the Museum entrance)
Monthly Sponsors - Rs.6,000/-
Weekly sponsors - Rs.2,000/-

*You could also donate any amount big or small and donations in kind are also welcome.

*All donors names will be mentioned in the Gaothan Voice.

*Please inform your East Indian Friends and Relatives to Support this East Indian Museum Project.

Bank account details:-

Account Name -Mobai Gaothan Panchayat
Bank name – Citizen Credit co-op Bank, Vakola Branch
Savings Account no. – 15620
IFSC code - CCBL0209016
***pls mention your name in your funds transfer**
For more details you may contact 9820087771.

EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY FUND

Support in Education, Medical and other Emergencies

Mobai Gaothan Panchayat(MGP) has launched the East Indian Community Fund to support a section of our community who are poor or belong to the middle class. The authorities who boast of helping the poor do not help in the right spirit as they have improper processes which prevent our community members to approach these authorities. Besides our community members are always known to suffer silently. MGP has decided not to be depend on these authorities who seem to be least cared about the East Indian Community. The challenge now remains to help our community in our own small way.

MGP will appoint the EIC Fund Coordinators in each village/zone and will also have a central coordinator. On submitting an Application form the family will be supported from the Fund account basis the fund balances in the account. MGP will support the amount in full or partially towards Education, medical needs and in case of emergencies. MGP is sure that each East Indian will contribute to ensure that the needy in our community are given the support they need. Special drives and initiatives will be released from time to time to generate funds for the East Indian Community.

The Highlights of the East Indian Community Fund are as follows:-

- *Donors can also sponsor basis the number of students for education support
 - *All Donors names will be mentioned in the Gaothan Voice
 - *The names of beneficiaries will not be published but will be provided to donors as per their request
 - *This support will be provided only to the East Indian Community
 - *The financials of this account will be released once a year
 - *Please mention your name in your funds transfer
 - *Please inform your East Indian Friends and Relatives in India and Abroad to Support the East Indian Community Fund
- For more details or to be EIC Fund Coordinators you may contact 7506175302 or email us at eastindianfund@gmail.com

Bank account details:-

Account Name -East Indian Community Fund
Bank name – Citizen Credit Co-operative Bank Ltd, Vakola Branch
Savings Account number – 15624
IFSC code - CCBL0209016

THE EAST INDIAN DICTIONARY

The First Ever edition of the East Indian Language

MobaiGaothan Panchayat announced its plans to release the first-ever East Indian Dictionary in July 2012. The project took its time as we had a small bunch of volunteers who came forward to compile the Dictionary. The East Indian Dictionary is now set for release by this year end and the Dictionary Team has planned all the actionables pending to ensure timely release.

The East Indian Dictionary will create awareness amongst youngsters and will promote the East Indian dialect. The East Indian Dictionary will be a compilation of the words spoken by East Indians initially in the English version and also plans to have a Marathi version released later.

Our Dictionary Team has done a great job in collecting East Indian words. Our Team has tried its best to cover as many East Indian words. We have tried to cover East Indian words on the basis of Weddings and Celebrations, Grammar and general words, religion and caste, occupation and business, food and drink, household and kitchen. The Objective of this project is to promote awareness of the East Indian Language, demand recognition of the language and be a handy reference to young East Indians and other communities.

The MGP Dictionary Team volunteers are as follows:-

Chief Project Coordinator and Assistant Editor - Candida Remedios, Vikhroli
Editor- Gleason Barretto, Old Kurla
Team Members - Gladys Dsouza(Bandra), Marcus Couto(Panvel), Cedric Tixeira(Juhu), Sybil Rodrigues(Kalina), Corina Misquitta(Parle) and Bernard Miranda(Kalina).

The Dictionary project will cost us around 1 Lac for 1000 copies. All those who wish to assist us in this project are requested to contact 9820545302 or email us at mgpmobai@gmail.com. Sponsors are welcome at Rs.5000 each and the names of the sponsors will be mentioned on one common page in the East Indian Dictionary.



Morris Kinny



Zicco Morris Kinny
+91 9819806940

Issac Morris Kinny
+91 9619232649
+91 9004129694

**Kinny's Farm House & Resort, Manori - Village,
Manori-Gorai Road, Malad (West), Mumbai - 400 095**

EAST INDIAN CENSUS - CARD

MobaiGaothanPanchayat(MGP) launched the first-ever East Indian Census on Sunday, 10th January 2016 which also happened to be an important date in the East Indian Community Calendar. On this day, the East Indian Community celebrates the feast at St.Bonaventure Church along the Madh Island popularly known as Baravi Cha Sann or Erangal Cha Sann.

This census will be open to all in the East Indian Community online and also through printed Census forms. This will be one of the most challenging Projects to be undertaken by MGP which will be led by Alistair Dsouza who will be the Chief Census Officer. As per reports there are around 5 lac East Indians across Bombay, Thane, Vasai and Raigad.

Highlights of the Census

- ✦ First ever Census launched exclusively for the East Indian Community
- ✦ Printed as well as Online form will be available
- ✦ Any individual whose any one parent, any one grand parent or spouse is an East Indian can register for the Census
- ✦ Census entries will be listed Free of Cost
- ✦ Those listed can also apply for an East Indian Card @Rs.100/- The first Batch of cards will be released in the coming months
- ✦ The Census will help in getting an update on the actual East Indian Population
- ✦ Will also help us create a data with important references in networking amongst the community and creating a support system to uplift the community
- ✦ A Census form will be approved by 2 Census coordinators basis which the Census entry will be approved and be allotted a Unique East Indian Census Identification Number

The East Indian Census Covers details like :

- Personal Details
- Family Hierarchy
- Relations Spread
- Life events
- Property History
- Home/Residence details
- Education History
- Professional History
- OBC Certificate details
- Annual Income

For more details you may contact:

Alistair Dsouza, Chief Census Officer - 9820169092

Alphi Dsouza, Chief Ambassador of the East Indian Community - 9820087771

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GIFT US YOUR MEMBERSHIP

We invite each one of you to register as an MGP member. You are also invited to register your family members and even children and infants. The idea behind having this membership drive is to show our number following to influential individuals and groups to ensure that we are not deprived of our basic right as the original inhabitants of Bombay.

FREE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE OF MOBAI GAOTHAN PANCHAYAT

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*Volunteers welcome to garner membership in their villages

*Special award for those who register maximum members

*For membership forms and more information you may call

Alphi : **9820087771**

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*Discount upto 50% at Mobai Bhavan, Manori

*Attractive discounts on some products and services at East Indian Bazaar

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HOLY CROSSES DESECRATED AND UNSAFE

The last few months have seen our Holy Crosses and statues around our Gaothans being desecrated. We have heard instances of desecration at Kurla, Santacruz and Kalina. In addition to this some Holy Crosses have been served notices by the BMC. The Bandra Holy Cross incident was a saddening one. Notices were also given to many other Holy Crosses which are safe due to extension of dates for submitting documents. MGP plans to launch its CROSS initiative basis feedback and support from our community to protect and preserve Holy Crosses. CROSS stands for Coordinators-Restoration-Organization-Support-Security details of which have been mentioned in our editorial in this issue.

EAST INDIAN SANN STARTS ON A GREAT NOTE

The Annual Community Festival, "East Indian Sann 2017" started on a great note with the first ever

East Indian Dialect Play, "Khanchanvarcha Naach" enacted at the St. Andrews Auditorium. Around 700 people were present to watch the play and all present appreciated this new mode of entertainment for our community. The Play was presented by the R&S East Indian Art and Cultural Group, Versova led by Russel Gonsalves.

The mega event of the Sann was the East Indian Awards and Food Festival at St. Andrews Quadrangle, Bandra on 4th May. Community Awards were presented for 18 categories of individuals and groups who have made our community proud. Around 700 people attended this annual event with stage performances organized by Sachin Kinny. Performances by the Shining Stars, Uttan were the highlight of the day with performances also by Russel Gonsalves and rapper Clyde Dsouza. Valentine and Trinette Machado also gave a special performance of the East Indian favourite, "Shikleli Pori".

The upcoming events of the Sann are the East Indians Day, MEIY organized Inter-Gaothan Football Tournament and Holy Cross Day.

ONE LINERS

Two East Indian Corporators – Tulip Brian Miranda and Steffie Morris Kinny elected

Annual East Indian Rally supported by 44 East Indian Associations

International Mai Boli Day celebrated at the Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum on 22nd February

Kaka Baptista Jayanthi celebrated on 17th March at Uttan led Leo Colaco and MGP Vibhag Sarpanch of Dharavi Beth, Ryner Desai

MMRDA is no more a planning authority for Dharavi Beth

St. Anthony statue, 10 feet in height placed at Margale Talav-Uttan on 4th April

Vincia Willie Alphonso from Thane wins 2 Silver Medals at the 17th Tenshincup International Karate Championship on 7th May 2017

ORBITUARY:

MGP is saddened by the untimely demise of Juliana Lobo, wife of James Lobo may her soul Rest in Peace.

MGP Team offers condolences to the family and assures them our prayers.

EAST INDIAN RALLY 2017

One East Indian Community! One East Indian Voice!

The Annual East Indian Rally organized by MGP was held on Sunday 5th March 2017 from the entrance of Mount Mary Basilica Bandra via St Andrew's Church to St Peter's Church ,Hill Road Bandra at 10.30 am. Over 350 people gathered along with 8 Recklas and many bikers. The rally began with a Rosary recited by Sybil Rodrigues which was followed by sloganeering on the way. At St Peter's church the programme began with some snacks and soft drinks to the tired participants which was followed by the East Indian Anthem. The speakers for the Rally were Fr Andrew , St Peters church bandra, Ancy D'Souza ,Bandra, Alexander D'Souza Kurla, Ryner Desai Bhyander, Franko Patil Sion, James Fernandes Vasai, Sachin Kinny worli, Russel Gonsalves Versova, Julie Shinde Marol, Sylvester D'Souza Thane, and Gleason Barretto Kurla. All spoke on different topics but the underlining East Indian Unity theme was evident. Alistair D'Souza did a good job of compering the entire programme. Momentos were given to all heads of Associations present and also to the nine ghodawallas who came with their horse carriage from far. The programme ended with a vote of Thanks by Alphi D'Souza.

Alphi D'Souza

SAVE HOLY CROSSES - Wake Up East Indians..

In May 2013 issue of the Gaothan Voice the cover story was to Protect and Preserve our community Holy Crosses with a liner from the famous East Indian Hymn,"Ho Kursu Salami Tula, Eklas Barvasa Tu Amcha"(Holy Cross of Christ, You are our only Hope). MGP made an appeal to all like minded East Indians to support and participate in the first ever Holy Cross Census and we got a very poor response. There were also plans to appoint Holy Cross Coordinators in each Parish but no one came forward. In MGP meet with the Cardinal on 4th January 2013 our team raised the issue of the Parishes to maintain data of Holy Crosses and Archdiocese to work towards protecting Holy Crosses but we were told as these were mostly on Private Land the Archdiocese or Parishes cannot support.

It's been just around 4 years and we all know what has happened. Some groups and individuals who project themselves as custodians of Holy Crosses mostly come in the picture when Holy Crosses are desecrated so that they are covered in the news.

When MGP covered the Holy Cross issue in Gaothan Voice and with the Archdiocese we did not anticipate these incidents but our sole objective was to Protect and Preserve our Holy Crosses. Many others waited for incidents so that they could project themselves as Faces of our community

Wake up East Indian People! It is our native village and only we will need to protect and preserve our community. Time to come together and forget our differences. MGP is ready to join hands with any like minded individual or Group who takes an Oath on the Bible that they will serve the East Indian Community and the Gaothans.

We will relaunch the Holy Cross Census basis feedback from our people. Please come forward and together let's do our very best to Protect and Preserve our Holy Crosses.

EAST INDIAN STAR 2017

Making East Indians Shine Brighter

Roger Pereira

East Indian of the Year 2017

Roger Pereira is a Company Director, Trustee and Advisory Board Member. Some of his leading roles across various sectors are:

- Vice Chairman - Mumbai First & Member Board of Governors
- Founder - International Advertising Association (India Chapter), Advertising Standards Council of India, Roger Pereira Communications, Vandrekar Communications
- Take Charge Initiatives to Mentor: future leaders of the community, community aspirants who wish to join the civil services, armed forces & the medical profession.
- Winner of several Awards Indian & International Awards which include:
 - The United Nations Award in New York
 - The Earth Savers Award at the Banff Television Festival at Banff, Canada
 - The Hollywood Academy of Arts & Sciences Award at Hollywood, Los Angeles
 - Clio Awards, New York
 - The New York Festival of Advertising Awards, New York
 - The Max Lewis Trophy Asia-Pacific
 - The International Public Relations Association Award, New York
 - The Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Advertising Association, New York.



And more than 50 Awards in India from the Government of India, State Government of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Advertising Clubs, Public Relations Society of India & the Association of Business Communicators.

The Mobai Gaothan Panchayat Team Congratulates Roger Pereira on his achievements and for making our East Indian Community proud.

East Indian Natekar - The East Indian Marriage Bureau

Mobai Gaothan Panchayat has initiated a Marriage Bureau. Registration is FREE. Those interested may submit their most recent photograph and other details to the office.

This will be placed in an album of all those who have registered with us.

Only registered members will be allowed access to the album.

Office address – Mobai Gaothan Panchayat, Bennett House ,
Kolivery village, Next to Chris Chinese , Kalina, Santacruz East, Mumbai 400 029 or
call on 9321795938 only between 5pm and 7pm on all days.

EAST INDIAN AWARDS 2017

Honouring Our Community Members

Kaka Baptista Award - East Indian of the Year 2017 – Roger Pereira

St.Gonsalo Garcia Award - East Indian Priest of the Year 2017 – Fr.Andrew Rodrigues

Kaka Baptista Award - East Indian Corporate of the Year 2017 – Bassein Catholic Bank

Kaka Baptista Award - East Indian Educationist of the Year 2017 – Penny Miranda

St.Gonsalo Garcia Award - East Indian Heritage Cross of the Year 2017 – 1803 Cherai Cross

St.Gonsalo Garcia Award - East Indian Social Worker of the Year 2017 – Bernadette Pimenta

Kaka Baptista Award - East Indian Association of the Year 2017 – Sahar East Indian Association

Kaka Baptista Award - East Indian Initiative of the Year – Shining Stars

Kaka Baptista Award - East Indian Young Talent of the Year – Clyde Dsouza

Kaka Baptista Award - East Indian Entrepreneur of the Year 2017 – Clyde Henriques

St.Gonsalo Garcia Award - East Indian Singer of the Year 2017 – Valentine Machado

Kaka Baptista Award - East Indian Photo of the Year 2017 – Cyrus Colaco

Kaka Baptista Award - East Indian Sportsperson of the Year 2017 – Mark Dharmai

Cardinal Simon Pimenta Awards of Appreciation

Award of Appreciation - On being bestowed the Order of St.Gregory - Jennifer Dsilva

Award of Appreciation - One being appointed Bishop of Bombay Archdiocese - Bishop Allwyn

***Award of Appreciation - On being the first ever East Indian Specialty Restaurant in Bombay
The Bagel Shop***

Award of Appreciation - On being elected as a BMC Corporator - Tulip Brian Miranda

Award of Appreciation - On being elected as a BMC Corporator - Steffie Morris Kinny

EAST INDIAN FIRST MAI BOLI DAY

We don't forget our mother tongue even if we don't speak it. The International Dialect Day or Mai Boli Day was celebrated on Feb 21, 2017 at the Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum , Theresa Villa ,Manori 4.30 pm onwards by Mobai Gaothan Panchayat in association with Anam Prem members . The compere for the evening was Krupali Bidaye who did a splendid job.

The evening began with the lighting of the solar Lamp by eight year old Bhaas Thakur who has been doing so every year since his birth. A drama was enacted by Nishigandha along with Bhaas, Anusha ,milind and swapnil. This was followed by Panchak (instrumental) presentation by Anam prem children. The East Indian group led by Ambrose Ferreira along with his team from Manori presented a group song . Anusha Samant of Anam Prem explained the importance of Mai Boli Day which was originated in Bangla Desh wherein some youth lost their life fighting for their mother tongue. Ambrose Ferreira and Paul D'Souza put up a song and dance to explain the East Indian wedding ceremonies which included the Sara and Moya accompanied by ace musician Charlie Kinny and his 7 piece East Indian Band from Manori. A skit called Kumari was performed by the Vadwal community of Gonsalo Garcia ,Agashi Virar led by Trisha Pereira which included the umbracha pani song and dances. This was followed by a Ghumat performance by the East Indians of Manori Gaothan . Walter Murzello and Alphi D'Souza both trustees of MGP gave of brief of Mobai Gaothan Panchayat activities . Students from Afghan, Tanzania, Africa, China studying at Mumbai University then performed in their dialect . Swapnil Parkar from Anam prem spoke about the importance and need of the Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum at Manori . Morgan Rodrigues an activist from nearby Uttan then spoke on preservation of Mother Language in today's fast paced world. A warli group from the Malavni church area then belted a few songs in their native dialect. To keep the programme light Antaksharee and Sangeet Khurchi was played where participants were chosen from among the crowd. Reshma Vade recited a Vanzari poem which was followed by a game Passing the Parcel organized by Harsha Bhat and her team. The East Indian Team from Uttan directed by Morgan Rodrigues performed a Ballet which enthralled the audience . The Highlight of the day was a national song Mile sur Mera Tumhara led by Santosh Joglekar and sung by all . After a vote of thanks dinner was served to all which was prepared by Clara and Angela Kinny from Manori Gaothan.

Alphi D'Souza

Coming Soon..... East Indian Masala – New page in Gaothan Voice

At the onset we would like to thank all our readers who enjoy reading the Gaothan Voice for your continued support . We have received a very positive feedback and an unprecedented request to start with a "Readers News Forum" where we would invite articles from all our readers that could be featured in the subsequent GV issues.

We have decided to name this column "East Indian Masala". You may contribute articles on historical facts, local Activities of East Indians, East Indian Traditions, Unique East Indian Stories, East Indian Recipes and kitchen tips, East Indian Jokes, East Indian liners, Letters to the Editor or any Activities to encourage the East Indian cause.

You may send your write-ups to eastindianvoice@gmail.com

EAST INDIAN SANN 2017



Pic 1 – Mark Dharmai receives the “East Indian Sportperson of the Year 2017” award from Sandra Dsouza, Orlem

Pic 2 – Valentine Machado receives the “East Indian Singer of the Year 2017” award from Prof.Fleur Dsouza, Thane

Pic 3 – Bishop Allwyn Dsilva receives the Award of Appreciation on being appointed a Bishop from Justice Aguiar, Kalina

Pic 4 – Penny Miranda receives the “East Indian Educationist of the Year 2017” award from Sylvester Dsouza, Thane

Pic 5 – Seema Colaco, Branch Manager – Bassein Catholic Bank, Bandra Branch receives the “East Indian Corporate of the Year 2017” award from Adv.Neil Creado, Juhu

Pic 6 – Lester Pereira receives an Award of appreciation for the first ever East Indian Restaurant, The Bagel Shop from Maria Goretti, Versova

Pic 7 – Office Bearers and Members of Sahar East Indian Association receive the “East Indian Association of the Year 2017” award from Major Leon Fonseca, Bandra.

EAST INDIAN PUNCH

The Mouthpiece of the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat

KHUROOS VANCHVA! KHUROOS BACHVA!

Let's Protect the Community Holy Crosses Erected before BMC's Existence

Denver D'silva

In global Christian traditions, the erection of a Holy Cross served as a shield to ward off evil, natural calamities and plague. They were also memorials of the rich and influential. They marked territory of large estates. The simple peasant folk who couldn't access the church during the evenings, found these places convenient to gather and pray. The Holy Crosses became symbols for the community. Today we find ourselves uniting in prayer at various village Crosses. These Holy Crosses have become part of our local traditions. 'An East-Indian Gaothan isn't a Gaothan without the Holy Cross'.

The need of the hour today is the protection and restoration of these symbols. But how far must one go? How much interference must we accept from the local governing bodies and how much co-operation should we extend? The tradition of Community Holy Crosses was initiated even before BMC existed. The authorities need to respect the religious sentiments and ancestral traditions of the sons-of-soil i.e. The East Indian Community. Various initiatives are being set-up by likeminded associations to protect and restore our Holy Crosses. To help us Protect the Holy Crosses, MGP proposes the concept of CROSS (Co-ordination, Restoration, Organization, Support and Security)

Coordinators - Each Gaothan or Parish should have a Cross Coordinator who will visit each cross regularly in his designated area and an update should be given to the chief Cross Coordinator. He or she can also initiate the registration process of the crosses. (Ensure that the crosses erected from early times is documented in the land register.) They should attend quarterly meets of Cross Coordinators and immediately inform all Coordinators and locals in case of emergency. Keep a chronicle with pictures of ongoing religious activities at the site.

Restoration - Ensure the Holy Crosses are well maintained. We must refrain from mindless renovation of the Cross structure but instead Restore it. Desist from encroachment on public property. A restoration panel could be set up to study the history of Holy Crosses to be restored. A proper record of documents and instances can be maintained for each cross by the Coordinators.



Organization - Ideally the local parish with active support from the Archdiocese should look after Crosses. The Archdiocese should appoint a special team to set up an Organization for the same. Committed and dedicated individuals should be assigned this responsibility. Regular diocesan cross feasts in the presence of an Ecclesiastical authority will not only improve the spiritual significance, but also enhance the connect between the shepherd of the diocese and the flock.

Support - It's the duty of each Christian to support this initiative to protect and preserve our Holy Crosses. Taking part in the evening rosary is a kind of support. But more active support in terms of finance and maintenance of the area is also expected. The locals should be the first to report at the site in case of emergency.

Security - A proper security plan should be established. The local police station should patrol at regular intervals. CCTVs can be set up at the Holy Cross. Since most of the crosses are at prominent locations, the surrounding area too is secured.

The church doesn't teach us to worship idols. The images and symbols are given to us so that we may remember God through them. The Holy Cross is a symbol for us to reflect upon the love of Jesus Christ. Do we take the values of the cross from the village square to our hearts? our homes? Do we treat it as a glamorous symbol or symbol of the purest form of love?

The crosses erected, are all part of our patrimony, our heritage and as 1 Peter 2:24-25 shows us "Through Christ's death on the cross, those who turn to Him are delivered from both the penalty and the power of sin."

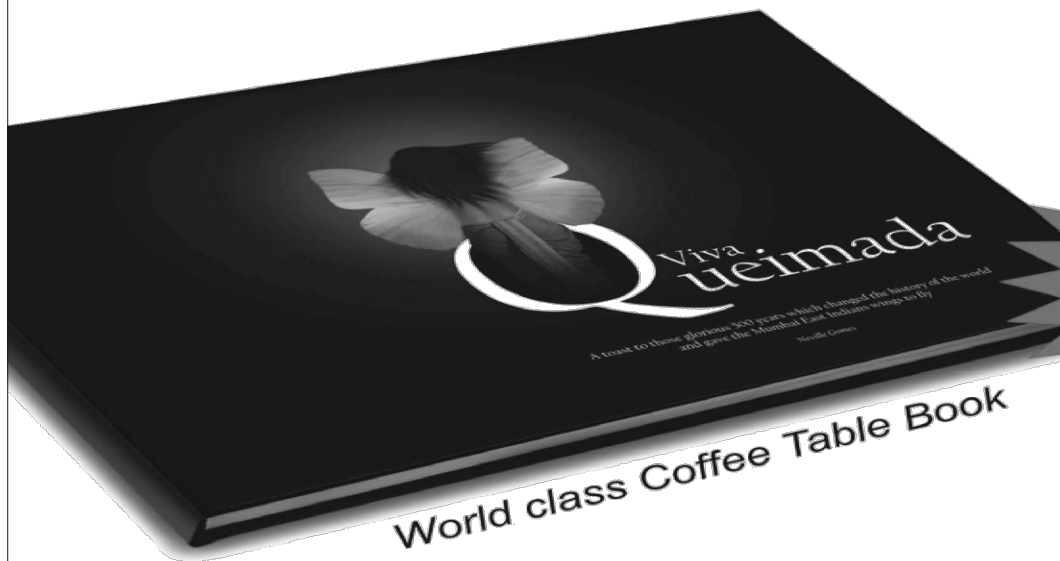
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