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



mgpmobai@gmail.com Mobile - 9820087771

Public Trust Registration No: F-57349(MUMBAI)



Uplifting the Village Community

VOICE गावठण वॉईस

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LAYOUT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

Darryl Fernandes - Andheri

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Benny Jacinto house, Kolivery village, next to Chris chinese, Kalina, Santacruz east, Mum - 29

E-MAIL

eastindianvoice@gmail.com

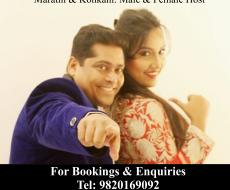
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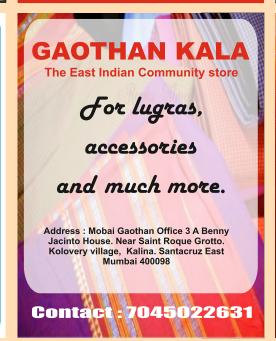
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MGP NEWS ISLAND

MGP CEO is now also a SEO

Congratulations to Alphi Dsouza (1st from left) on being appointed as a SEO(Special Executive Officer). A Big thanks to Ex-MLA Krishna Hegde on his reference for this SEO appointment.



MGP Team Meets Bishop Allwyn D'silva

(MCAT) met Bishop Allwyn on Monday, 26th March at Goregaon Seminary. Points discussed were as follows:

- 1. Housing for East Indians on Church lands
- 2. Prominence for Services in Diocese in Marathi Language and East Indian Dialect at all East Indian founded or dominated parishes
- 3. Church dedicated to St. Gonsalo Garcia in Bombay Diocese
- 4. Land for East Indian Bhavan
- 5. Simplified OBC Permissions The East Indian Agenda 2018 basis Online Survey was also discussed

Kaka Baptista Memorial Visit

he MGP Core Action Team On 17th of March, Alphi Dsouza and Walter Murzello from MGP paid their respects at Kaka Baptista's bust at Uttan along with the local activist and social workers. The MGP will send a communication to the State Government on dedicating some projects to our community freedom Fighter. MGP also plans more Initiatives and projects dedicated to Kaka Baptista. MGP has already dedicated some East Indian Awards and the East Indian Museum to Kaka Baptista.

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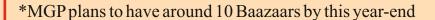
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EAST INDIAN BAAZAAR

The Local Gaothan Community Market

- *An initiative to Revive our local Village Markets
- *We revived the Markets with the 1st one last month and the 2nd Bandra Baazaar scheduled this Saturday (2nd Saturdays)
- *Community Markets to be set up in as many Gaothans or it's vicinity
- *Will be held at a regular defined frequency Weekly, Fortnightly, Monthly, Quarterly or Yearly
- *Only East Indian owned Businesses can set up a stall at the Baazaar
- *Only East Indian Food Takeaways are allowed
- *East Indian articles sold by other Communities can also join
- *An initiative to encourage East Indian Entrepreneurs and Businesses
- *The Baazaar will be held at a venue, compound, wadi, Gaothan entrance or a bylane



Those interested to set up an East Indian Baazaar at your Gaothan or to set up a stall may call 9820087771/9820545302

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KAKA BAPTISTA JAYANTI

Bombays Natives, the East Indians to pay their respects to Community freedom fighter

KAKA BAPTISTA JAYANTHI – MGP Demands sports facility as Indigenous People

The East Indian Community celebrates 154th Birth Anniversary on March 17th

Mobai Gaothan Panchayat(MGP) in its efforts to create awareness of Bombay Natives, the East Indian Community had declared in 2013 that March 17th every year will be observed as Kaka Baptista Jayanthi. Joseph "Kaka" Baptista is a freedom fighter who was a close associate of Lokmanya Tilak during India's freedom struggle. Kaka Baptista was born on March 17, 1864 at Matharpacady, Mazagaon. His father, John Baptista hailed from Uttan, near Bassein. This year the community will celebrate the 154th Birth Anniversary.

To commemorate this special Day for the East Indian Community, MGP plan is as follows

Uttan -The local east indian community along with MGP representatives — Walter Murzello and Alphi Dsouza paid their respects at the Bust of Kaka Baptista, Uttan. MGP had renovated the shed, canopy and painted the place a couple of years ago.

As the East Community celebrates the 154th Birth Anniversary this year the community has now taken upon itself to revive its culture, tradition and raise their voices against the injustice towards the community. MGP will communicate to the BJP government in Maharashtra to give due importance and benefits to the sons of soil community of Bombay, Thane, Raigad and Vasai. Special appreciation to the community freedom fighter, Kaka Baptista will also be demanded.

A couple of years ago, MGP has decided to demand for a sports facility for the community dedicated to the community leader. Its surprising that the Indigenous people of Bombay, the East Indian Community does not have a single sports facility of the community even though a majority of the lands owned were taken away under the disguise of development. Many of these have been allotted to various trusts, NGO's and various organizations but nothing has been granted to the East Indian Community. MGP will make a fresh demand along with their other demands presented every year. The Sports facility will be named Kaka Baptista Sports Complex catering to the sons-of-soil community.

Some of the highlights about Kaka Baptista are as follows:-

- *Kaka Baptista coined the phrase"'Swaraj is my Birth Right" which was later made popular by Tilak
- *Kaka Baptista was the First Mayor of Bombay in the year 1925-1926
- *He worked with BMC for 17 years from the year 1901
- *The Mazagaon Gardens is named after him and was recently renovated
- *He assisted Tilak by launching the Sarvajanik Ganpati(public Ganpati celebrations)
- *He was a legal advisor to Lokmanya Tilak.
- *Played an active role in the Home Rule Movement along with Lokmanya Tilak and Annie Besant.
- *As an Advocate in the High Court , he defended Veer Sarvarkar and demanded an open trial on the basis of fundamental rights.

Due to his valuable contribution to the city and India's freedom struggle, MGP has demanded the following to commemorate his 154th Birth Anniversary

- *The Bandra-Worli Sealink to be named after Kaka Baptista
- *Bandra Terminus to be named after Kaka Baptista
- *Special sports facility for the sons-of-soil community
- *A special Community fund to be started for the natives, to support the community for Education, Medical and other needs.
- *Land to be allotted for East Indian Bhavan to have an auditorium/hall in memory of Kaka Baptista.
- *Kaka Baptista to be recognised by the Maharashtra Government for his valuable contribution to the city and country and various projects to be named after him
- *March 17th to be recognised as Kaka Baptista Jayanthi by the Maharashtra State Government and also a special commemoration by the BMC.
- *An East Indian to be directly chosen as a Corporator by the community members and associations to represent in the BMC House

EAST INDIAN .CAM MONTHLY ACTIVITIES



On 17th of March, Alphi Dsouza and Walter Murzello from MGP paid their respects at Kaka Baptista's bust at Uttan along with the local activist and social workers.



MGP Team met the Italian Scholars over Lunch at the Bandra Gymkhana after the Presentation at St.Andrews College on Thane Martyrs. Special thanks to our MGP Advisor, Ashley Dmello for organizing this Meet



The MGP Core Action Team (MCAT) met Bishop Allwyn on Monday, 26th March at Goregaon Seminary.



St.Anthony's Chapel Inauguration Special Updates by - Walter Murzello, MGP

MGP SARPANCH



Cyrus Misquitta
MGP Sarpanch of
Juhu gaothan No.3
Village - Juvem (Juhu)
Pakhadis - Kandal & Agarwadi



Darryl Gonsalves
MGP Sarpanch of
Juhu Gaothan No.2
Village - Juvem (Juhu)
Pakhadis - Gavan & Sutarwar



Bryce Rodricks
MGP Sarpanch of
Andheri Gaothan
Village - Andheri
Pakhadis - Andheri



Regan Mendonza MGP Sarpanch of Kanjur Village - Kanjur



Gloria Moraes
MGP Sarpanch of
Marol
Village - Marol



John Buthelo
MGP Sarpanch of
Versova
Village - Versova



Johan Dharmai MGP Sarpanch of Chimbai Village - Vandre (Bandra)



Bonny Pereira
MGP Sarpanch of
Orlem
Village - Valnai
(Orlem)



Mario Fishery
MGP Sarpanch of
Chapel Road
Village - Vandre
(Bandra)

GAOTHAN COORDINATORS

MGP is glad to announce the next line of our MGP Structure by appointing Gaothan Coordinators and Sarpanches across Gaothans in Bombay, Thane, Vasai and Raigad. The Gaothan Coordinators have been designated their line of activities and we are sure that they will do their very best to protect their Gaothans and promote our culture &traditions.

NAME	GAOTHAN		
Coretta Dsouza Fernandes	Amboli		
Samuel D'souza	Andheri		
Caster Fernandes	Big Carpentry		
Duffy Pereira	Juhu gauthan No.3		
Brendan Sutari	Khar		
Bosco Patel	Kharodi		
Silvy Pereira	Papdy		
Daillyn Dias	Ratodi		
James Fernandes	Small Carpentry		
Chrysantus Miranda	Vakola		
Regina Almeida	Giriz		
Hector Dsouza	Kanjur Upper Pakhadi		
Dianna Ferro	Kanjur Upper Pakhadi		
Romuald Deruz	Kirol		
Sunita Alphonso	Cherai		
Sachin Pereira	Marol		
Anthony Sequeira	Sahar Sutar Pakhadi		
Shabana Dsouza	Santacruz		
Anna Gomes	Santacruz		
Ashley Rodrigues	Vakola		

To Join the MGP Team as MGP Sarpanches or gaothan Coordinators please contact on 9820087771 / 9820545302

MGP STRUCTURE

MCAT & MAC

MGP Core Action Team (MCAT)

Name	Gaothan			
Alistair Dsouza	Juhu			
Alphi Dsouza	Vakola			
Belmira Miranda	Vakola			
Darryl Fernandes	Gundavli			
Gleason Barretto	Old Kurla			
Penny Miranda	Amboli			
Rita Rodricks	Bandra			
Sachin Kinny	Worli			
Sybil Rodrigues	Kolovery			
Walter Murzello	Orlem/Uttan			

MGP Activity Coordinators (MAC)

Name	Gaothan		
Ashley Rodrigues	Vakola		
Charlotte Rodricks	Bandra		
Chrysantus Miranda	Vakola		
Clarissa Dsouza	Vakola		
Errol Dmello	Bandra		
Gladys Dsouza	Bandra		
Mark Barot	Kandivali		
Reuben Dias	Kalina Motha Gaon		
Susie Napier	Bandra		



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EAST INDIAN MASALA

East Indian Easter

-Averil Fernandes, Gundavli

About 46 days of Lent, each and everyone has a different way of celebrating Easter and abstaining during Lent. My earliest memories of Lent go back to when I was a little girl, growing up in a typical East Indian Gaothan; starting with pancakes and prayers, ending with Vindaloo and music, the church being just 5 mins away from home, so one can picture how it is. Listening to the church bells ring, listening to the Papiyas late at night and staying put in the house with strict warnings not to look out, those hymns that touch the soul and give you goose bumps every time you hear them making you feel a piercing pain.

My grandmother was very strict about Lenten time, we obviously abstained from meats but we also had to abstain from too much entertainment like TV time and music which worked out in our favour because it is always exams during Lent. We had to attend Stations of the cross which was conducted for children on every Thursday, and the Pass which was in Marathi every Sunday evening at 5 pm. Being a child and sitting through sermons knowing that you have to go back home and study was not the best feeling but it had to be done. The last Sunday in Lent being Palm Sunday and we had and enactment of Veronica during the Pass service, so we knew that Easter is at hand, the Holy week was really holy with prayers and watching religious channels if any. Eating simple food and praying daily. Our street would start smelling of East Indian delicacies right from Maundy Thursday, Vindaloo and Easter eggs aromas from every home, we typically made vindaloo, sorportel, roast chicken with stuffing at the side, Stew, Chicken Moile, (my mouth salivating as I am typing this), hand breads, Fruit cake, phugias. All this is about my East indian Easter as a child and Spinster.

I am fortunate to get married into an East Indain Family and I moved into another Gaothan, so all my Lenten and Easter memories revived with a few changes here and there but here too I had a grand mother who was very particular about prayers, a family who abstained from meats and any kind of non veg and alcohol, all my childhood memories refreshed. Easter is even more grander here, I start the Easter eggs and Cake preparations as the Holy week begins, I am blessed to have a mother (in Law) who is more a friend and mentor to me, she has taught me so many East Indian delcacies to precision that I look forward to abstaining during Lent just to enjoy all the preparations for Easter to the fullest. This year we prepared Easter Eggs, Marble Chocolate cake, East Indian Pork sausages, Pork Sorportel, Stuffed Chicken (8 to be precise), Potato chops, Phugias (well I can feel my bones ache while I write this). All this wonderful food and the best family to share with. Easter makes me Nostaligic brings me my childhood and at the same time makes me feel so blessed and fortunate to be able to give others a beautiful feast.

So all in all, An East Indian Easter is all about our Faith, Food, Family and Fun. I hope you all had a fun filled Easter and a blessed Lenten season, I just shared my experience, hoping to take you all back to your earliest memories of Easter.

Maza Gaon ...maza Saan





EAST INDIAN PUNCH

The Mouthpiece of the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat

AAPLAA GAAV! AAPLA NAAV!

Our Native land is slowly losing its identity with the sons-of-soil East Indian Community. As you travel across we see structures and roads names after migrants who had no role to play in our city. This is a fact at each of our East Indian bastions of Mumbai, Thane, Vasai and Raigad.

Our Village! Our Name! Yes it's time to change the equations. Identify every road or structure around our Gaothans and its vicinity. Start naming them and place boards. If you see an inappropriate name write to the civic authorities for a change of name. The MGP Sarpanches and Gaothan Coordinators along with the support of MCAT have been told to go ahead with this plan on an active note.

MGP launches this initiative,"Aapla Gaav! Aapla Naav!' in tune with MGPs 8th Anniversary focusing on Naming with the East Indian Theme. About a year ago MGP launched the Gaothan Beautification Project with features like Entrance Arc and History Board. We are also connecting with Architects and Designers for ideas on Name board designs. The Project progress in our East Indian Gaothans will be publicized on social media

We appeal to all our community members to identity and name all roads, junctions and bylanes with East Indian Theme names - could be religious, community leaders or have a local connect. While its preferable that the naming is done through official process with the civic authorities you can also go ahead placing boards and later ask for permissions as we have this basic right as natives. Regan Mendonza, MGP Sarpanch of Kanjur Gaothan is the Chief Coordinator of this project. Regan has been instrumental in naming a road with the East Indian theme in May 2016 and another 2 roads will be named soon at Kanjur Gaothan.

We look forward to your suggestions and feedback. Lets go on a naming spree and take back what is rightfully ours.

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.

- *We plan to register 25,000 members and much more
- *Forms available on www.mobaikar.com *Patron members are welcome:

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Gold-Rs.2500,

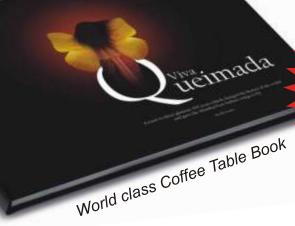
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- *Volunteers welcome to garner membership in their villages
- *Special award for those who register maximum members
- *For membership forms and more information you may call Alphi: 9820087771

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