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



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GAOTHAN VOICE JUNE 2024 Vol:GV 06/24



21 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

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One Vision!

One Voice!

One Village !

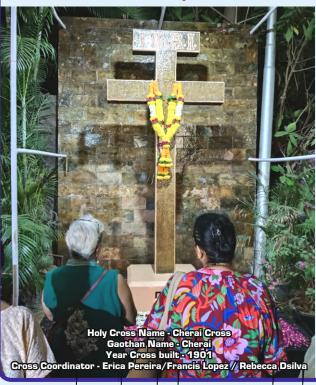
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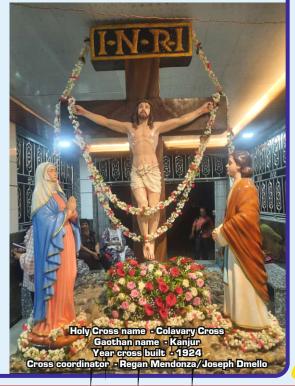
The East Indian Magazine

Email:eastindianvoice@gmail.com

VARLANZUN BANDILAY KURUZ SAGLE GAAVAN AAPLE GAOTHANCHI YIS MOTHI SHAAN

Kuruz - MGPs Project to Preserve and Protect Holy Crosses





MOT MAULI YATRA Devache Mae. Pau Tu Amala..



August September 2024

MGP Native Devotions Project- Creating Awareness on devotion to Mount Mary and St. Gonsalo Garcia.

*Gaothan groups and families that wish to keep the Mount Mary Statue at Gaothan Common places, Holy Crosses, community halls or at their home may contact us on 9820087771.

East Indian Gaothans – 100+ Villages ★ Readership – 50,000 ★





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eastindians.cam

News in Pictures



East Indians Day 2024

Date - Saturday, 25th May 2024

Time - 10am to 4pm, Venue - Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum, Manori





























eastindians.cam

News in Pictures



East Indians Day 2024

Date - Saturday, 25th May 2024

Venue - Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum, Manori

MGP TEAM AWARDS 2024

Presented by - Corina Melvin Fonseca



Gaothan Sarpanch of the Year -Corina Pereira



New Active Team Member of the Year -Royston Jacinto



Gaothan Coordinator of the Year -Anita Dsouza



Village Coordinator of the Year - Bosco Patel



Vibhag Sarpanch of the Year -Vicky Misquitta



Family Coordinators of the Year -Juneth and Belmira Miranda

MGP LONG SERVICE AWARDS 2024

Presented by - Alphi Dsouza and Walter Murzello



Sybil Rodrigues - April 2012 - 12 years



Bosco Patel - March 2010 - 14 years



Bonny Pereira - July 2017 - 8 Years



Blanche Henriques - July 2017 - 8 Years



Ramsey Rebello - October 2018 - 5 years



James Fernandes - July 2010 - 13 Years

GAOTHAN VOICE : JUNE 2024



eastindians.cam

News in Pictures



East Indian Food Festival 2024

Date - Saturday, 4th May 2024
Time - 5pm to 10pm, Venue - St Andrew's Quadrangle Bandra































MOTHI LADIN

Ek Luzaar! Ek Lazaar! Ek Awaaz!





Holy Cross Name - Mankhurd Vilage Cross Gaothan - Mankhurd Cross Coordinator - Surjay D'aguiar



Holy Cross Name - Jacinto Cross Gaothan Name - Kolovery Cross Coordinator - Sybil Rodrigues



Holy Cross Name - Kolbad Cross Gaothan Name - Thane Kolbad Cross Coordinator - Jyostna



Holy Cross Name - Kharodi Cross Gaothan Name - Kharodi Cross Coordinator - Anthony Alvares



Holy Cross Name - Main Cross Gaothan Name - Marve Cross Coordinator - Corina Pereira



Holy Cross Name - Peter D'Souza Cross Gaothan Name - Madh Village Cross Coordinator - Helen D'souza/Adriana D'Souza



Holy Cross Name - Bhoiwada Village Cross Gaothan Name - Bhoiwada Cross Coordinator - Gilton



Holy Cross Name - Sion Agarwada Village Cross Gaothan Name -Agarwada Cross Coordinator - Melanie n Sherline



MOTHI LADIN

Ek Luzaar! Ek Lazaar! Ek Awaaz!





Holy Cross Name - Marshall D'Lima Cross Gaothan Name - Malvani Village Cross Coordinator - Hazel Kinny/Nathan D'Souza



Holy Cross Name - Hall Villager's Cross Gaothan Name - Hall Gaothan Cross Coordinator - Florina Rodrigues



Holy cross name : Kevni Village Cross Gaothan name : Kevni Cross Coordinator: Christopher Mathews



Holy Cross name - Vakola Village Cross Gotham name - Vakola Gaothan Cross Coordinator - Roy Miranda



Holy Cross name - Bamanwada Village Cross Gotham name - Bamanwada Gaothan Cross Coordinator - Sujata Misquitha



Holy Cross Name - Sacred Heart Cross Gaothan Name - Kirol Cross Coordinator - Collet



Holy Cross Name - Utalsar Cross Gaothan Name - Thane Utalsar Cross Coordinator - Preeti/Ludger



Holy Cross Name - D'Souza Cross Gaothan Name - Thane Dsouza Wadi Cross Coordinator Sylvester Dsouza



Holy Cross Name - KVIIIa Cross Gaothan Name - Thane Kvilla Cross Coordinator - Malcom Pereira



MOTHI LADIN

Ek Luzaar! Ek Lazaar! Ek Awaaz!





Holy Cross Name - Cross Garden Holy Cross Gaothan Name - Bhayendar Cross Garden Cross Coordinator - Jacqueline Mendis



Holy Cross Name - Khalai Cross Gaothan Name - Khalai Cross Coordinator - Charlotte



Holy Cross Name: Bamanpuri Village Main Cross Gaothan Name: Bamanpuri Cross Coordinator : Flavia Soares



Holy Cross Name - Wadala Village Cross Gaothan Name - Wadala Cross Coordinator - Novel Serrao



Holy Cross Name - Joe Hendricks Cross Gaothan Name - Rathodi Cross Sarpanch - Jacinta Rodricks

- 7 -



Holy Cross Name : Barretto Cross Gaothan Name : Old Kurla Cross Coordinator : Florence Gomes



Holy Cross Name : Pakadi Cross Gaothan Name : Parle Pakadi Cross Coordinator : Jude



Holy Cross Name : Majiwada Cross Gaothan Name : Thane Majiwada Cross Coordinator : Velankini(Jonna)



Holy Cross Name - The Divine Holy Cross of Naigaum Welfare Association Gaothan Name - Naigaum, Dadar Cross Coordinator - Solomon Fernandes



EAST INDIAN SANN 2024

MGP Annual East Indian Community Festival



EAST INDIANS DAY 2024 - TOP 10 HIGHLIGHTS

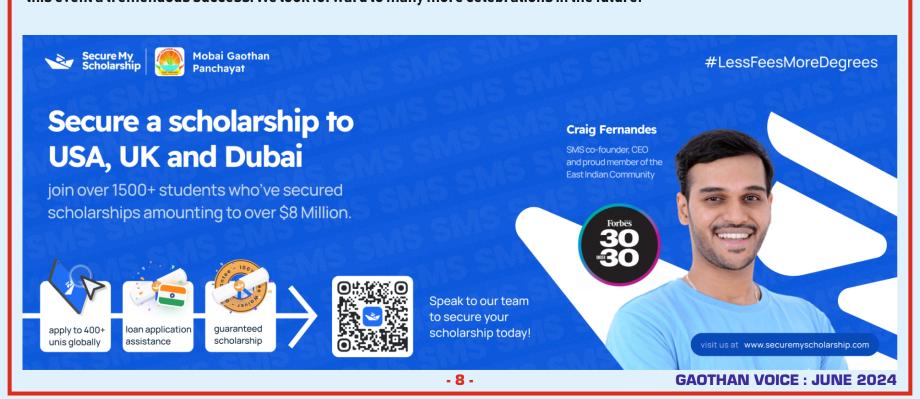
Joulyn Kenny, Worli

East Indians Day 2024, held on Saturday, 25th May at the Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum in Manori, was a grand celebration of our vibrant heritage and community spirit. The event brought together the East Indian community for a day filled with cultural festivities, delicious food, lively music, and so much more!

Event Highlights

- 1. East Indian Marathi Holy Mass: The day began with a serene and heartfelt Marathi Holy Mass, bringing the community together in spiritual unity and reflection.
- 2. Cultural Festivities: Following the mass, attendees enjoyed traditional dances, songs, and plays that showcased the rich cultural heritage of the East Indian community. The performances were a testament to the talent and dedication of our community members.
- 3. Delicious East Indian Lunch: A sumptuous East Indian lunch was served, featuring a variety of traditional dishes that delighted the taste buds of all attendees. From spicy curries to sweet desserts, the meal was a highlight of the day.
- 4. Lively Music: The event was alive with music, featuring performances by local bands and artists. The lively tunes and melodies created a festive atmosphere, encouraging everyone to dance and celebrate.
- 5. Fun and Games: The day was packed with fun activities and games for all ages. From traditional games to modern activities, there was something for everyone to enjoy. The kids' zone was particularly popular, ensuring that the little ones had a blast.
- 6. Community Bonding: East Indians Day was not just about entertainment; it was about strengthening the bonds within our community. Old friends reconnected, new friendships were formed, and the sense of togetherness was palpable.
- 7. Heritage and History: The Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum provided a fitting backdrop for the celebrations. Attendees had the opportunity to explore the museum's exhibits, gaining a deeper appreciation of our community's rich history and heritage.
- 8. Merchandise and Souvenirs: Various stalls offered East Indian cookery books, traditional clothing, jewelry, and other unique merchandise, allowing attendees to take home a piece of their heritage.
- 9. Spot Prizes: Throughout the event, lucky attendees won exciting spot prizes, adding an element of surprise and joy to the festivities.
- 10. Closing Ceremony: The day concluded with a heartfelt closing ceremony, thanking everyone for their participation and support. The sense of pride and unity was evident as the community came together to celebrate their shared heritage.

East Indians Day 2024 was a memorable and joyous occasion, celebrating the rich cultural heritage and strong community spirit of the East Indian people. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the organizers, sponsors, performers, and attendees who made this event a tremendous success. We look forward to many more celebrations in the future!





EAST INDIAN SANN 2024



MGP Annual East Indian Community Festival

Mot Mauli Yatra Devache Mae, Pau Tu Amala.

- *An initiative to create awareness about our Native Devotions Mount Mary and St.Gonsalo Garcia
- *The Mount Mary Statue will be taken to our East Indian Gaothans and it's vicinity from August to September
- *The statue will arrive at each Gaothan at 8pm and leave the next day at around 6pm
- *The Statue of Mount Mary will be brought in Procession from Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum to the nearest Gaothan
- *The statue will be taken every day to different Gaothans across Mumbai, Thane, Vasai and Raigad
- *Gaothan groups and families that wish to keep the Mount Mary Statue at Gaothan Common places, Holy Crosses, community halls or at their home may contact us
- *The Annual Mot Mauli Purcessao will be held this year on Saturday, 15th September 2024
- *Donors/Sponsors for decorations and transport are welcome

Those interested may contact Alphi Dsouza on 9820087771

The dates of Mount Mary statue Gaothan Visit will be finalised on a first-cum-first-serve basis

San Jao! Ek Gaav! Ek Baav!

Restore and Revive Village Wells

- *MGP will inform it's team members and network spread across 50+ Gaothans to restore atleast one community well
- *We will also appeal the community to restore and revive our Village water bodies Baavris(Wells), Talavs(Ponds and Lakes), rivers and sea
- *The village well Baavris plays an important role in East Indian culture for St.John the Baptist feast and the pre wedding celebration
- Umbrachapani
- *Our Network team will connect with local authorities for restoration of our wells, ponds and lakes
- *If we start now, MGP is sure that this festivity of St.John the Baptist will get better each passing year
- *Its time we give back to our Gaothans what belongs to its history and the restoration of wells was already a part of the Gaothan Restoration and Beautification Policy
- *All success stories of this project will be highlighted on social media
- *MGP targets restoration of 10 Village wells in one years' time

For suggestions and Feedback, you may message us on 9820545302 or email mgpmobai@gmail.com



THE BIGGEST EAST INDIAN FOOD FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR...

East Indian Food Festival 2024
Date - Saturday 4th May
Time - 5pm to 10pm
Venue - St Andrew's Quadrangle Bandra

Top 10 Highlights

- 1. LIVE Fugiyas and Umber Taste them Hot and fresh, fried in your presence.
- 2. Mobai Kitchen An East Indian Restaurant with a Special buffet spread of 10 authentic East Indian dishes.
- 3. Koli Food Stalls selling a variety of fish specialty like prawns, pomfrets, surmai and more.
- 4. Umbrachapani Refreshments Stall A well themed stall with juices and soft drinks.
- 5. Stage performances Popular songs sung by the best talent in the East Indian Music industry.
- 6. Lugra and Jewellery A wide variety of Lugra and accessories with East Indian traditional jewellery.
- 7. Books & Merchandise East Indian cookery books and merchandise like Sukhala bags and lugra themed umbrellas.
- 8. Spot Prizes Carry the rarest of things and be lucky towin our spot prizes
- 9. Kids zone It's holiday time and so we have a games section for our children.
- 10. Housie An East Indian Village is incomplete without a game of housie during summer holidays, bring back memories with loads of goodies as prizes.



MGP NOTICE BOARD



The Announcement for the East Indian Community

MGP Team Awards 2024

Presented on 25th May 2024 At Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum, Manori

Gaothan Sarpanch of the Year - Corina Pereira

Vibhag Sarpanch of the Year - Vicky Misquitta

Village Coordinator of the Year - Bosco Patel

Gaothan Coordinator of the Year - Anita Dsouza

New Active Team Member of the Year - Royston Jacinto

Project Lead Coordinator for the Year - Zenobia Gracias

Project Support Coordinator of the Year - Errol Dmello

Project Support Sarpanch of the Year - Joel Kinny

Gaothan Network Coordinator of the Year - Clayson Fonseca

Event Coordinator if the Year - Sherline Barretto

Civic Sarpanch of the Year - Darryl Gonsalves

Family Coordinators of the Year - Juneth and Belmira Miranda

MGP Team - Long Service Awards 2024

James Fernandes - July 2010 - 13 Years Elizabeth D'Souza - March 2019 - 5 Years Ramsey Rebello - October 2018 - 5 years Romuald Dcruz - August 2018 - 5 years Douglas Lobo - June 2010 - 13 years Sunita Alphonso - July 2010 - 13 Years Blanche Henriques - July 2017 - 8 Years Bonny Pereira - July 2017 - 8 Years Bosco Patel - March 2010 - 14 years Zenobia Gracias - June 2016 - 7 Years Franco Patil - May 2015 - 8 Years Cyrus Misquitta - March 2010 - 14 Years **Sybil Rodrigues** - April 2012 - 12 years Regan Mendonca - June 2017 - 6 years Belmira Miranda - February 2017 - 7 Years Joseph Dmello - October 2018 - 5 years Chrysantus Miranda - September 2017 - 6 Years

Presentation on - Saturday 25th May 2024 Time - 10am onwards Venue - Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum, Manori Presented by - Mobai Gaothan Panchayat

Gaothan Crib Competition

1st Prize - Gift of Peace Community

Award sponsor - Bonaventure Soares

2nd Prize - Flavian Creado - Kurla

3rd Prize - St Thomas Community- Sahar Sutarwar

Largest Crib in Mumbai - Cardinal Care Charitable Trust, Orlem

Gaothan Outdoor Decoration

1st Prize - St Sebastian Community - Kolbad 2nd Prize - Kalina Big Village

Gaothan Art Installation

1st Prize - Uttan Devtalav

2nd Prize - Lover Boys Club - Uttan

3rd Prize - Charlton Misquitta - Parle

All prize winners or representatives who have not yet collected their prizes for the Christmas Competition are requested to contact 9930229742 or WhatsApp on 9820544302.

Marve Gaothan

in association with

Mobai Gaothan Panchayat

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SANJAO

23rd June Marve Ground, 11.00 Am Onwards
Entry Pass per person: Rs. 500/-

MGP IN THE NEWS -Eat like an East Indian. Midday 03 May 2024, page 4

Ashley Rodrigues - September 2017 - 6 Years

Fat like an East Indian

East Indian Food Festival, which is a part of the annual East Indian Sann celebrations across Mumbai, will host its 2024 edition tomorrow at St Andrew's Quadrangle in Bandra. This time, director Alphi D'Souza revealed, they will set up a restaurant which will serve a special East Indian buffet. "The Mobai Gaothan Panchayat has been hosting this festival since 2010. Of the 50 stalls, nearly 30 will be East Indian food-themed Jexpect Kunbis, Bhandaris, Kolis, and Agris specialties]. There will also be community-themed games, merchandise and book stalls, he told this diarist. Call 9323195028 to reserve a table for the special buffet.



The food festival will feature various food and merchandise stalls

The East Indian Food Festival held at St Andrew's Quadrangle, Bandra, was a resounding success! Food lovers and cultural enthusiasts came together to enjoy an array of East Indian delicacies and vibrant community activities.

Event Highlights:

- Special Buffet & Stalls: Attendees indulged in a sumptuous East Indian buffet and explored 30 unique food stalls featuring Kunbis, Bhandaris, Kolis, and Agris specialties.
- Engaging Activities: Community-themed games brought joy and excitement, while merchandise and book stalls offered unique cultural insights.

The festival, with its free entry, welcomed a diverse crowd, making it a truly inclusive and memorable event. Thank you to everyone who joined us and celebrated the rich culinary heritage of East Indian



Reetin Reevaaz

The East Indian Culture Guide



EAST INDIAN HERITAGE ITEM - KHIMAD

Amarylisa Gonsalves, Juhu

East Indians love their drinks. In fact, what even is an East Indian gathering without some alcohol and drinks?! Interestingly making alcohol out of fruits for commercial purposes had been a major business for locals back in the day.

And talking of East Indian drinks, Khimad takes the top spot. The ingenious beverage, Khimad, is more than just an alcoholic drink. It has medicinal properties too. And East Indian occasions are believed to be incomplete without serving Khimad.

What is Khimad?

Khimad is an ingenious heritage East Indian drink that is served at most community gatherings. It is traditionally made of country liquor mixed with certain spices.

Khimad also has medicinal properties and is ideal for common and viral colds and coughs. Another interesting fact about Khimad is that, unlike other alcoholic beverages which are usually served cold, Khimad is served hot.

The hot Khimad is served in a kettle. It is consumed as a shot in small glasses called chavnis. Khimad is served at all community celebrations and before having the drink people prefer saying Sukhala instead of cheers.

East Indian Sann

East Indians are known to love and enjoy their feasts. The month of June marks two important feasts in the East Indian community. Although the celebrations of these feasts are limited due to monsoons, that does not stop the community from celebrating them.

GAOTHAN VOICE - ADVERTISEMENT RATES

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	₹	₹	₹	₹
Outside Cover	12000	34200 (11400)	64800 (10800)	115200 (9600)
Full Page	6000	17100 (5700)	32400 (5400)	57600 (4800)
Half Page	3500	9975 (3325)	18900 (3150)	33600 (2800)
Strip Ads	2000	8700 (1900)	10800 (1800)	19200 (1600)
Inside Box	600	1710 (570)	3240 (540)	5760 (480)
Classifieds	200	570 (190)	1080 (180)	1920 (160)

For bookings or more details contact 9820087771/9930229742

- 11 - GAOTHAN VOICE : JUNE 2024



KURUZ

MGPs Holy Cross Project



MOTHI LADIN

Ek Luzaar! Ek Lazaar! Ek Awaaz!

The Annual Thanksgiving Litany of MGP and Prayer for our East Indian Community

Date - Saturday 1st June 2024
Rosary in - East Indian Dialect
Time - 8.00, Location - Holy Crosses across Gaothans

Top 10 Highlights

Music touch - Hymns in the East Indian dialect were sung and some Gaothans also had a Brass Band in attendance

One Community – this initiative was aimed towards getting the East Indian Community to pray together and showcase Gaothan Unity

<u>Tradition revival</u> - the Holy Cross Feast and the daily rosary at each Gaothan Hoy Cross needs to be continued and hence efforts were made to revive this tradition for future generations

<u>Heritage site</u> - the holy crosses have been around for more than 100 years and are generally made up of stone or wood and Cross history and relevance gives them heritage value.

<u>Inspiring stories</u> - East Gaothan holy cross has a story on the family that built it, miraculous power, protector from disease and famine hence these stories need to be retold for future generations to remember

<u>Landmark spot</u> - the Holy Crosses were built on prominent locations and so continue to serve as landmarks of each Gaothan

<u>Awareness point</u> - the authorities and administration do not know about the historical and Heritage value hence creating awareness about the Holy Crosses stands important

<u>Dialect promotion</u> - the prayers were recited or sung in the East Indian dialect to promote it's use during our communications with fellow community members.

<u>Indigenous connect</u> - the Holy crosses stands tall and strong for centuries to justice the Indigenous People connect of the East Indian Community.

<u>Native Devotion</u> - our religious devotions in our native villages have been followed for centuries and decades hence continuing with these devotions is a key to our religious beliefs.



Participating Holy Crosses in the Gaothans - 33

1.	Agarwada - Sion2	12.	Kanjur	23.	Marve - Malad
2.	Bamanwada - Sahar	13.	Kevni - Andheri	24.	Naigaum - Dadar
3.	Bamanpuri - Andheri	14.	Khalai - Kirol	25.	Old Kurla
4.	Pali - Bandra	15.	Kharodi - Malad	26.	Pakhadi - Parle
5 .	Bhayendar	16.	Kirol	27.	Rathodi - Malad
6.	Bhoiwada - Dadar	17.	Kolbad - Thane	28.	Santacruz
7 .	Cherai - Thane	18.	Kolovery - Kalina	29.	Sion
8.	Dharavi	19.	Madh - Malad	30.	Utalsar - Thane
9.	Dsouza Wadi - Thane	20.	Majiwada - Thane	31.	Vakola
10.	Hall Village - Kurla	21.	Malwani - Malad	32.	Wadala
11.	K Villa - Thane	22.	Mankhurd	33.	Worli



EAST INDIAN PUNCH

EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY

The Mouthpiece of the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat

VARLANZUN BANDILAY KURUZ SAGLE GAAVAN AAPLE GAOTHANCHI YIS MOTHI SHAAN

Kuruz - MGPs Project to Preserve and Protect Holy Crosses

Gleason Barretto, Old Kurla

ey to a Gaothan of Christian identity is the Holy Cross. An East Indian Gaothan is complete only if it has installed a Holy Cross. Many houses in our villages have a Holy cross installed in their compounds and at every prominent landmark. Some are built by local groups while some by families hence the surnames associated with them earlier known as Goths. With Gaothans getting developed with newer constructions the holy cross is slowly getting hidden and at times even shifted to make way for infrastructure projects. As Gaothans are synonymous with a holy cross, all round efforts are needed to create awareness about these religious installations.

Inique place to pray and meditate is in front of the Gaothan Holy Cross. As people pass by irrespective of their religion we witness many paying their respects for the holy cross. The inclusions of statues of saints and mother Mary makes these places even more sacred and respected by the people of other religions. The Holy crosses were visited by papiya singers during lenten time at every Gaothan. Even when the villagers prayed for Rains to St. Anthony they prayed at the Gaothan holy cross. The East Indian brass bands also pay their respects at the cross as a pre-wedding tradition.

estoration of the Holy Cross is the keyword often forgotten in this modern world. The Holy Cross has great relevance to Gaothan Heritage and History. A big worry today is the renovation of our crosses being given a new modernised look instead of restoring the holy cross. It's time the cross owners preserve and protect the original wood or stone structure. In today's times Heritage looks more better and presentable. While restoration may sound challenging it's the need of the hour as each holy cross connects to our communities rich history.

Inity in the Gaothans begin from the Holy Cross. The month of October is a witness to many holy crosses, wherein people come together to recite the rosary. The month of May has all the Holy crosses all decked up with flowers and decorations. The seniors seem all excited and the children look forward to this great month of celebration and prayer. Families offer their rosary referred as Ladin by the community after which channas (chikpeas/grams) and soft drinks are served. One special day is celebrated as the Cross Feast with special refreshments and even dinner for all those who attend. All families around the holy cross come together in prayer this symbolising the Unity in the Gaothans.

Zestful feelings and memories come to life at the foot of the cross as it heals all our worries and blessed us with enthusiasm and success. It's time we place these feelings and memories with a futuristic approach to protect and preserve these historical sites of our existence and identity. 'KURUZ' MGP's Holy Cross Project aims to do the best it can to document the crosses by a basic online survey. We then plan to appoint village cross Coordinators to fulfil our objective to preserve and protect holy crosses. Restoration will also be promoted and financial support given through crowd funding if the locals need support. The Gaothan Holy Cross remains our greatest hope and with great faith let's pray that though this initiative we take our community, its history and heritage to greater heights.



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The Village Advertisement Space

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CHILDREN OF THE SOIL

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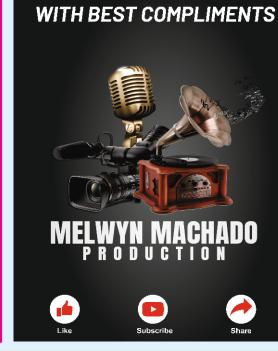
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AN APPEAL

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 Mumbai City, Mumbai Suburb, Dharavi Beth, Thane & Raigad. **Highlights**

- *The First Religious structure in Bombay Archdiocese to be dedicated to our Native Saint.
- *The Chapel Fund generation will be actively initiated once the land is purchased or donated
- *The Chapel is likely to be inaugurated in the year.
- *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

9820087771/9820545302

MGP - Promoting Native Devotions

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