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)

GAOTHAN VOICE OCTOBER 2024

One Vision!

www.mobaikar.in



21 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNI

One Voice!

The East Indian Magazine

One Village!

Email:eastindianvoice@gmail.com

Vol:GV 10/24 For Private circulation only

Thanksgiving Day Isru Manashi Gazvu Agera Cha Sann Havseshi

Request! Remind! ReAct! - Mission Agera





MGP Annual Christmas Raffle 2024

Organised by - Mobai Gaothan Panchayat Date of draw - 26th December 2024

1st Prize - 5 gms gold coin

2nd prize - 2 gms gold coin -Sponsored by Joel Dsilva

3rd prize - 1 gm gold coin -Sponsored by Joel Dsilva

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MGPs Mission Agera

Aaplaa Gaav! Aaplaa Sann!





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KURLA



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News in Pictures



MGPs Mission Agera

Aaplaa Gaav! Aaplaa Sann!





VAKOLA

KANJUR





SION

BANDRA





AMBOLI

KIROL







THANE

UTTAN

BAMANWADA

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GAOTHAN VOICE: OCTOBER 2024



EAST INDIAN AGERA 2024

List of Gaothans that Celebrated Agera



AGERA – The Harvest Festival of the East Indian Community List of 118 Gaothans who confirmed Agera Celebrations

Acton - Vasai

Agashi Mangla - Virar

Agashi - Virar

Agarwada - Sion

Aldea - Uttan

Amboli - Andheri

Andheri - Andheri

Bamanpuri - Andheri

Bamanwada - Sahar

Bangli Village - Vasai

Bazar Road - Bandra

Bhandarwada - Gorai

Bhandarwada - Sion

Big Carpentry - Vasai

Big Giriz - Vasai

Chakala - Andheri

Chapel Road - Bandra

Chimbai - Bandra

Church pakhadi - Gorai

Church pakhadi - Sahar

Cherai - Thane

Cross Garden - Bhayendar

Culbavor - Kurla

Culvem - Gorai

Dahisar - Dahisar

Dongri - Uttan

Dharavi - Dharavi

Dadar - Dadar

D'Souza Nagar - Thane

Dahanu - Dahanu

Eksar – Poinsur

Erangal – Madh

Mann - Boisar

Ghodbandar - Ghodbandar

Golibar - Santacruz

Gomes Street - Bhayendar

Govandi - Govandi

Gundavli - Andheri

Halawar pakhadi - Gorai

Hall Village - Kurla

Juhipada - Gorai

Juhu Gauthan No.2

Juhu Gauthan No.3

Kalina Big village

Kandivali - Gaothan

Kandarpada - Dahisar

Kanjur Lower Pakhadi

Kanjur Upper Pakhadi

Kantwadi - Bandra

Kashegaon - Kashimira

Kevni - Amboli

Kelve - Palghar

Khajori Wadi - Uttan

Khajori Wadi - Gorai

Khallai - Kirol

Kharodi - Malavni

Killabundar - Vasai

Kirol - Kirol

Koldongri - Andheri

Kolovery - Kalina

Kolbad - Thane

Kondita - Marol

Kumbharwada - Manori

Kumbharwada - Vasai

Kumbharwada - Virar

Laxmi Baugh - Sion

Lepora Street - Bhayendar

Lower koliwada - Gorai

Madh Christian village - Madh

Malavni Gaothan

Mandli Street - Bhayendar

Mandpeshwar - Borivali

Mankhurd - Mankhurd

Manickpur - Vasai

Manori koliwada

Marol – Andheri

Marouli - Marouli

Majiwada - Thane

Marve - Malavni

Mota Gaon - Uttan

Muddhan pakhadi - Gorai

Mulgaon - Vasai

Naigaon - Naigaon

Naupada – Kurla

Naupada - Thane

Navghar - Uttan

New Giriz - Vasai

Old Khar - Khar

Old Kurla - Kurla

Oshiwara Gaothan

Pakhadi – Parle

Palghar - Palghar

Pali – Naigaon

Pali - Uttan

Palli - Bandra

Panchghar - Manori

Papdy Village - Vasai

Parle - Parle

Poinsur - Kandivali

Pond - Parle

Ranwar – Bandra

- 4 -

Remedy - Vasai

Rathodi - Malavni

Sahargaon - Sahar

Santacruz - Santacruz

Sandor - Vasai

Satmai Village -

Sandore Vasai

Shepali pakhadi - Gorai

Shire - Uttan

Small Carpentry - Vasai

Small Giriz - Vasai

Suttar pakhadi - Sahar

Talzen, mulzen pakhadia' - Gorai

Tape - Amboli

Upper koliwada - Gorai

Vairala pakhadi - Gorai

Vakola Gaothan

Vikhroli - Vikhroli

Valnai (Orlem) Gaothan

Versova Gaothan

Waroda - Bandra



GAOTHAN VOICE: OCTOBER 2024



EAST INDIANS FIRST

Indigenous People have the First Right



BANDRA FAIR EAST INDIAN STALL STORY

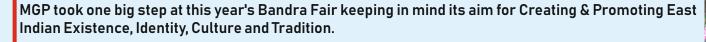
East Indians - Existence Identity

Mount Mary Steps - Stall no.77

For the first time ever : A Stall selling East Indian themed books, umbrella and merchandise



- *This year as stall bookings went online a MGP member applied and was alloted a stall of 5ft by 3ft for Rs.10,276/- and a refundable deposit of Rs.4355/-
- *A few MGP members contributed towards the stall hire charges as we wanted an East Indian Indigenous People stall visible at the Bandra Fair
- *Our Stall no.77 was situated after the last Mount Mary steps selling books, Lugras, umbrellas & merchandise
- *We had also hired a stall manager due to unavailability of our members on working days
- *Our plans was not to cover the total costs of the stall and make a profit but the intention was to showcase East Indians Existence & Identity at the Bandra Fair
- *Our continuous requests for more focus on devotion seems to have taken shape this year
- *While we have entered the Bandra Fair through the very last steps, we will climb step by step each year to reach the greater heights of the Mount
- *We may have a special crowd funding drive next year for East Indian Baazaar Network Stalls to set up their business on the Mount Mary Steps
- *With Mount Mary's blessings we managed to cover the cost of the stall and also make a small excess to fund our community projects





MGPs East Indian Stall at the Bandra Fair on the Mount Mary Steps showcased all elements that MGP plans to revive

Existence & Identity - East Indian Community are the Indigenous People of Mumbai and we need to create awareness always

History & Heritage - the founders of the Bandra Fair should be remembered for generations

Culture & Tradition - Stall selling East Indian books, Lugras and merchandise

Visibility – an East Indian themed stall was present on the Mount Mary steps of the Bandra Fair for the first time after decades

The Indigenous People of Mumbai, Bhumiputra East Indian Samaj urgently need to ensure that their Existence, Identity, Culture and Tradition is maintained, today and always.

This is an Empowerment initiative under MGPs projects -Mobaikar Gaothan Store moBAIKAr Self Help Groups East Indian Baazaar MGP Merchandise

MGP Team thanks Vicky Misquitta for overall coordination andmanagement of the Bandra Fair Stall











EICA 2024

Appreciation The East Indian Way



East Indian Community Awards - EICA 2024 Nominations Invited for the Annual Awards

EXCLUSIVE AWARDS

East Indian of the Year
East Indian Icon of the Year
East Indian Star of the Year
East Indian Educationist of the Year
East Indian Sportsperson of the Year
East Indian Author of the Year
East Indian Institution of the Year
East Indian Initiative of the Year
East Indian President of the Year
East Indian Sports Promoter

RELIGIOUS

East Indian Bishop of the Year
East Indian Priest of the Year
East Indian Missionary of the Year
East Indian Religious Sister of the Year
East Indian Religious Brother of the Year

HISTORY & HERITAGE

East Indian Heritage Church of the Year East Indian Heritage Cross of the Year East Indian Gaothan of the Year East Indian Historian of the Year

BUSINESS

East Indian Corporate of the Year
East Indian Business Family of the Year
East Indian Entrepreneur of the Year
East Indian Resort of the Year
East Indian StartUp of the Year
East Indian Restaurant of the Year
East Indian Real Estate Developer of the Year
East Indian Consultant of the Year

PROFESSIONAL

East Indian Professional Family of the Year
East Indian Doctor of the Year
East Indian Advocate of the Year
East Indian Chartered Accountant of the Year
East Indian Architect of the Year

EVENT ORGANISERS

East Indian Decorator of the Year
East Indian Caterer of the Year
East Indian Photographer of the Year
East Indian Videographer of the Year
East Indian Compere of the Year
East Indian Make Up Artist of the Year
East Indian Venue of the Year
East Indian Banquet Hall of the Year
East Indian Bridal Designer of the Year
East Indian Baker of the Year
East Indian Decor Designer of the Year

COMMUNITY SERVICE

East Indian Social Worker of the Year East Indian Activist of the Year East Indian Association of the Year East Indian Project of the Year

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

East Indian Journalist of the Year
East Indian Culture Promoter of the Year
East Indian Jeweller of the Year
East Indian Social Media Influencer of the Year
East Indian MLA of the Year
East Indian Corporator of the Year
East Indian Shetkari of the Year
East Indian Koli of the Year
East Indian Ghorewala of the Year

East Indian Community Awards EICA 2024
Encourage * Inspire * Commend *
Appreciate

On Friday 29th November 2024 6pm onwards

SPONSOR RATES-

Title Sponsor - Rs.100,000/Co Sponsors - Rs.50,000/Gold Sponsors - Rs.25,000/Silver Sponsors - Rs.15,000/Bronze Sponsors - Rs.10,000/Event Partners - Rs.20,000/Associate Partners - Rs.10,000/Trophy Sponsors - Exclusive category awards @ 7k each and Special category awards @ 5k each

- *Awards trophy Sponsors can be Corporates, Businesses, families, individuals or Memorials
- *MGP Donor Members can contact us for Complimentary passes to the Awards ceremony
- *To be an New MGP Donor Member you may contact us

For more details or sponsorships contact 9820545302/9820087771

EICA - A Mobai Gaothan Panchayat Initiative

EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY AWARDS - EICA 2024

A Privilege To Sponsor MGPs AwardsTrophy

Date - Friday, 29th November 2024 Venue - Marve Time - 6pm onwards

Award Trophy Sponsor rates

Exclusive Awards - Rs.7,000/- per award

Special Awards - Rs.5,000/- per award

Combo Sponsors welcome -

Exclusive 3 awards @6k = 18k Exclusive 5 awards @5k = 25k Special 3 awards @4k = 12k Special 5 awards @ 3k = 15k

Award trophy sponsors can be corporates, businesses, families, individuals or memorials

Awards Trophy Sponsor Privileges

- *Sponsors Name will be printed on the Award Trophy
- *Awards Sponsor will get a complimentary invited for 2 guests *Sponsors will be announced on MGP platforms
- *Sponsor will get an opportunity to present the Awards Trophy or Hamper

Sponsors in kind for the awards are also welcome towards LED screens, sound, decorators, Dinner, refreshments, take aways, band and other

To sponsor or for more details contact 9820545302/9820087771

requirements

EICA - A Mobai Gaothan Panchayat Initiative





KAKA BAPTISTA

Promoting Our Community Freedom Fighter



KAKA BAPTISTA MEMORIAL DAY94TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Date: Wednesday, 18th September 2024

*MGP team along with local representatives paid their respects on the Death Anniversary of our Community Freedom Fighter.

Location#1

Kaka Baptista's grave at Sewri Cemetery @8am Members Present - Gleason, Vicky, Sybil & Joel

Location#2

Kaka Baptista's bust at Boot Bangla, Uttan @9am Members Present - Walter and Jevio



*Kaka Baptista, Our community freedom fighter coined the phrase "Swaraj is my Birth Right"

May Kaka Baptista inspire us to demand the true freedom from authorities who have deprived us of our basic rights as the Children-of-Soil

*KAKA BAPTISTA MEMORIAL DAY - PROJECT REVIVAL PLAN *

The Projects we plan to activate begining today are mentioned below with a brief on each to help you join basis your interest or expertise

We will need the below mentioned project team members

- *Chief Coordinator* to lead the project
- *Active Coordinator* continuous and active Coordination month on month
- *Support Coordinator* to play a supporting role as in when required
- *Advisor* those with expertise in the given project theme

Ten Revival Projects - Kaka Baptista Memorial Day

1. *Sarvajanik Krist Janmotsav*

Annual Christmas Festival with competition, events and much more. Kaka Baptista played an important role in the Sarvajanik Ganeshotsav Movement with Lokmanya Tilak

2. *East Indian Baazaar*

The Local Village Market Place

3. *East Indian Bhavan*

A Place to promote Community Culture and Tradition

4. *Gaothan Bachav Andolan*

Protection and Preservation of our Heritage and Historical Villages

5. *Gaothan Beautification Project*

Giving our Gaothan an Ideal Village Look taking into account Heritage, History, Culture and Tradition

6. *Kaka Baptista Project*

Given our Community Forgotten leader the much needed appreciation and awareness about his contribution to the nation

7. *Kaka Baptista Heritage Gardens*

A Community themed Garden with focus on Culture, Tradition, History and Sports

8. *MGP Heritage Project*

Restoration and Preservation of Community based History, Existence and Identity

9. *East Indian Gymkhana*

Platform to promote Sports amongst the community

10. *MGP Housing Project*

Affordable Housing Initiative

To join or to know more on any of these projects please contact us at mgpmobai@gmail.com or WhatsApp on 9820545302



Sewri

MGP IMPACT

MGP thanks all community members for their support.

Our Christian Unity stands important in such times.

We thank MLA Ashish Shelar for his prompt action by issuing a letter to change the name of the proposed school. We will appreciate it if Ashish speaks to the local residents around this site and resolves the other issues faced by them. Locals staying around this site know what is best for them and their future

Latest report states the name change has been initiated and MGP Team will be in touch with locals for regular updates.

MLA Ashish Shelar has also dedicated an ITI at Andheri to Kaka Baptista on 12th October 2024

GAOTHAN VOICE: OCTOBER 2024



MGP NOTICE BOARD

EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY

The Announcement for the East Indian Community

Congratulations Dubai East Indian Community for Organising Vandar Cha Sann - Special thanks from the MGP for being the Supporting Group

A big Thanks to everyone who attended the Vandar Cha San event and made it such a huge success! The energy and support by those present truly made the day special.

It was a day filled with non-stop East Indian music, delicious East Indian food, and unforgettable moments. The positive response and love from the crowd has inspired the organisers to plan the next event on an even bigger scale! Dubai East Indians, Get ready for something spectacular!

A special shoutout to Jesus Band, the DJs Godfrey Misquitta, Andre Pereira, Aaron Pereira & Emcee Neil Len Pereira for their amazing performance and keeping the crowd on their Feet throughout.

The organisers would like to extend their deepest gratitude to Fortune Atrium Hotel and Dominic Vijay Mathias for their continuous support, which played a crucial role in making this event possible. Special thanks also to the wonderful sponsors for their unwavering support

MGP Team thanks the organising team led by Sebastian Rodrigues and Maverick Pereira for giving us an opportunity to be a Supporting Group for the Dubai event

Looking forward to seeing you at the next event organised by the Dubai East Indian Community.

MGP Agera 2024 Highlights Aaplaa Gaav! Aaplaa Sann!

- 1. Agera celebrated at 125+ Gaothans in Mumbai Metropolitan Region by 5 lac+ community members
- 2. Community Get Togethers held at 30+ Gaothans
- 3. Special Video Message released by Cardinal Oswald Gracias and prominent community members
- 4. MGP announced special Agera themed competition to promote culture and tradition
- 5. Majority of parishes celebrated the special Agera holy mass in state language Marathi or the community dialect East Indian
- 6. MGP released a special edition of the Barkhi Satir Mini Satir to give the festivities a facelift
- 7. Attractions include Agera parade, beat groups, brass bands, food festival, traditional meals and much more
- 8. Traditional procession with Reklas, bullock carts and brass bands
- 9. Community members dressed at the traditional best especially Lugras in Reds and Greens
- 10. Fresh farm vegetables and fruits offered during the religious service to celebrate the Harvest Festival

*MGP - Protect! Promote! Preserve! *

MGP CONGRATULATES MOUNT MARY CHURCH FOR A WELL ORGANISED BANDRA FAIR AND THE STALL ALLOTMENT PROCESS CHANGE

*Mobai Gaothan Panchayat (MGP) representing the Indigenous People of Mumbai - Koli, Aagri, Bhandari and Kulbi feel the Church management did a great job by changing the stall allotment process

*Online process was a welcome change from a partial process earlier

*It's also encouraging that the Rector - Fr Vernon Aguiar and Vice Rector - Fr Sunder Albuquerque have focused on Devotion and lesser on the commercialised factor

*The opening of the exhibition centre is one of the best initiatives of Mount Mary Basilica

*Alloting the immediate prominent stalls to Churches and religious articles was also a very good move

*The washrooms have been nicely renovated and the stalls quality are much better and presentable

*The Stalls rates may need to be reworked and made lesser but keeping the cost of stalls and other facilities in mind

*The stall allotment process may need to be tweaked a bit and MGP Policy & Strategy team will suggest to the Mount Mary Church management on the same

*The new process will take time to be acknowledged and hence a bit of teething issues which is obvious in every new process but this is surely a welcome move

*MGP continues to request for around 20 stalls for Indigenous People - East Indians & Kolis at special affordable prices keeping the stall installation costs in mind

*Some older stalls owners are miscommunicating by calling themselves as natives and Traditional stall owners when actually only Indigenous People of Mumbai (Kolis & East Indians) have the right to call themselves as natives, the initiators of the Bandra feast tradition and the founders of the Bandra Fair.

MGP representing the Bhumiputra East Indian Samaj thanks and appreciates the Mount Mary Church management for this first big step with focus more on Devotion and lesser on commercialisation this year. While we have many other requests, this is surely one big step to make the Bandra Fair better organised as per the suggestions of the Indigenous People of Mumbai



EAST INDIAN PUNCH

EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY

The Mouthpiece of the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat

THANKSGIVING DAY ISRU MANASHI GAZVU AGERA CHA SANN HAVSESHI

Request! Remind! ReAct! - Mission Agera

Gleason Barretto, Old Kurla

rchdiocesan Support is one of the important aspects in celebration of one of the biggest East Indian festivals of the year, Agera. Cardinal Oswald Gracias has been kind enough to share Agera greeting videos on our request year on year. We have also requested Archbishop Felix Machado for his support in the Vasai Diocese and he was prompt to have an article on Maharashtra Indigenous People's Agera in their Diocesan magazine, Suvarta. Our focus now turns towards the Vasai Diocese region to promote Agera traditions and celebrations. The parish support across East Indian Villages of Maharashtra has been mixed and we are trying to connect across our network to get updates and plan way forward accordingly. The upward trend in celebrations is on the rise in a majority of villages but some seem to be facing issues due to lack of clergy support and local participation.

Gaothan Base for celebrations should be our biggest focus and we should aim for lesser dependency on parish council and clergy. There has been some encouraging success stories and at the same time some saddening ones too. The major reason has been the parish council or clergy or both. Parish councils with a majority of migrant representatives have been conveniently voting against our indigenous people religious traditions and the hierarchy has been quite on our demand to have an East Indian representative appointed in all parish councils. Parish Council have no right to decide on indigenous people religious traditions and the hierarchy has to release an Indigenous People Policy in this regard. It's time our local activists and groups focus on celebrations with a base from our Gaothans. Lets make the local church dependent on our Gaothans and it should not be the other way round.

xistence and identity should be our biggest objective across the community. In the last few decades our community has seen a dip in its visibility and activity but the last few years have been encouraging. In parishes we begin to hear of how the very existence of our community is being questioned and some religious heads have sidelined our East Indian identity. Even the Government bodies and political leaders don't recognise our indigenous people existence and identity. Creating awareness and visibility of our existence and identity should be one of our leading initiatives. Emphasising and observing all our religious traditions should be ensured across parishes.

evival opportunity for celebrating Agera is bountiful across Villages. With this also comes the promotion of our state language, Marathi and the East Indian dialect. Community members should stay connected with their relatives and friends across the state to ensure Agera is celebrated and revived across the length and breadth of East Indian Villages in Maharashtra. The Agera special mass should be in Marathi or East Indian and bilingual could be allowed basis approval by local East Indian activists and groups. All masses for Agera in English should compulsorily sing an East Indian or Marathi hymn. Agera celebration at Vasai Diocese has been low key and MGP plans to connect with our network to get this activated and revived in a bigger way.

gera Agera Agera, and no Thanksgiving day or joint community harvest festival. Some parish clergy heads and parish councils have been trying to drive the anti-Agera agenda which needs to be stopped with immediate effect. This Indigenous People festival should be referred only as Agera and not Thanksgiving day. Some parishes have been giving the "Agera" term a backseat to fulfil their agendas hence we need to be alert and speak up now before it's too late. Request, Remind and ReAct is our action plan for MGPs Mission Agera. We will first Request the clergy heads and parish councils, then Remind them about the same and if we don't get a positive response we will ReAct the East Indian Way. Mission Agera is all about ensuring religious traditions are followed and cultural celebrations are organised besides ensuring the services are in our State language Marathi or the native East Indian dialect. Lets ensure Mission Agera is accomplished and we at MGP are available for any support you may need on the parish or diocesan level.

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With Best Compliments from

Joel Dsilva and Family Dombivali



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.

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For more details or to support contact 9820087771/9820545302 MGP - Promoting Native Devotions



A MGP Project

