

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



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Uplifting the Village Community

VOICE

गावठाण वॉईस

22 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

BANDRA SPECIAL ISSUE

GAOTHAN VOICE SEPTEMBER 2025

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The East Indian Magazine

One Village !

Email: eastindianvoice@gmail.com

VANDARCHA GAAV KONACHA EAST INDIAN LOKANCHA Let's Make Bandra East Indian Again



MGP Annual Christmas Raffle 2025

Organised by - Mobai Gaothan Panchayat
Date of draw - 26th December 2025

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2nd prize
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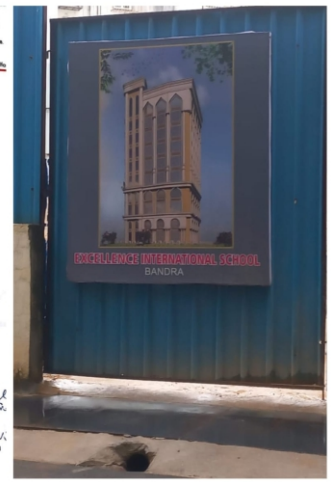
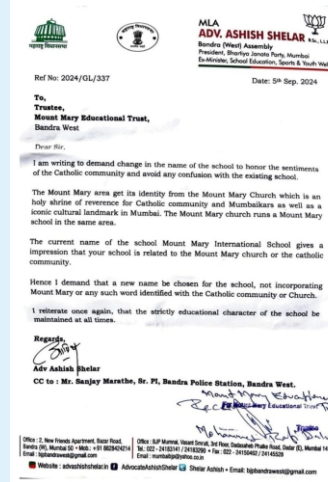
MGP's BANDRA CONNECT

East Indian Community Awards



Bandra is a favourite location for the East Indian Community Awards and a majority of the recipients have their roots from Bandra Roger Drego receiving the award for East Indian of the Year 2023

MGP Ensures Change of School name



MGP Impact - In a week's time from raising the issue to Bandra West MLA Ashish Shelar who attended the inauguration, the name of non Christian school changed from Mount Mary International to Excellence International School.

East Indian Rally



The Annual East Indian Community rally is mostly based in Bandra East Indian Rally 2016 from Mount Mary to St Peter's Church via Band stand

Mount Marys Church & Bandra Fair

MGP has tried its very best for special allotted Bandra Fair stalls to East Indians and daily Marathi masses during octave week with little success. Our drive for these basic rights as Indigenous People of Mumbai continues. The MGPs Mot Mauli Promotion project works towards awareness and promotion of native devotion to Mount Mary.



Midday front page - 13th September 2015

East Indian Baazaar

Inside the Mobai market

An East Indian community-backed monthly market in Bandra aims to support small businesses and share their culture and cuisine with the city

LIMITED EDITION
One-time-only experiences curated by visiting cool folk

TANISHKA D'LIMA
tanishka.dylima@gmail.com



IT is true that you have to know an East Indian or have your eyes peeled to the ground to know about happenings within the community where to buy fragrant from, where and when the next fest is, and which home kitchen makes the best handmade breads. So, while all might seem quiet on the outside as you cross St. Andrew's College in Bandra this Saturday, much beyond the gates and within the building, the atmosphere in the college's cafeteria will be teeming with lively chatter and the aromas of every East Indian dish you can think of. There might even be traditional music. If someone decides to pick up a ghazal, an earthenware percussion instrument. This is the East Indian Baazaar, an initiative by Mobai Gaothan Panchayat (MGP), a monthly market that comes alive in various places across the city.



The bazaar has been held for the last five years on the second Saturday of every month with exceptions during the pandemic. It is a meeting point for sellers and buyers, and to everyone wanting to experience our culture and food from over 25 stalls. Alongside popular East Indian dishes like potato chops, lurgas and pun rolls, we are told that the market will also

D'Silva and her son, Royston, owners of D'Silva Caterers serve classics such as surpuri and chicken molice. Zita and Hsian Lopez, owners of Zita's Kitchen and residents of Vakhoda, have been a regular feature at every bazaar. For this edition and by popular request, Zita, 27, will be selling chicken khundi, a thick curry made with roasted coconut and her own blend of traditional bottle masala. Her specialty blend is also for sale among other dishes. She shares, "I have had this business since 1991, and I have been selling my food at MGP's bazaar since 2016. They have been very helpful and I am grateful to have furthered my business with their support". Stepping into the bazaar might be like stepping into a relatively undiscovered part of the city - one of its best-kept secrets inhabited by a community that celebrates its culture loudly with much gusto. Isn't it, isn't it?

FREE July 9: 5 pm to 8:30 pm
Cafeteria, St Andrew's College, Bandra West.

East Indian Baazaar, the East Indian Community Market was started at Bandra 10+ years ago. This Project aims to uplift and empower our community especially women.

Midday - 7th July 2022

East Indian Food Festival

East Indian Food Festival is organised every year at Bandra in tune with MGPs Annual festival - East Indian Sann. The Food Festival has 50+ stalls and footfalls of around 5000 visitors.

Midday dated - 30th January 2018



HISTORICAL CHURCHES OF BANDRA

By Britney Dharmai, Bandra

St. Andrew's Church is Bandra's oldest surviving church, built circa 1575 when the Jesuits were evangelising the island of Salcette. It catered to the spiritual needs of all of Bandra, Santa Cruz, and Khar when the old Church of Santa Ana (now the Bandra Bus Depot) was demolished by the British to save it from a Maratha invasion. St. Andrew's was built through the patronage of a wealthy lady, and its earliest parishioners belonged to the Koli and Kunbi communities. The historic villages of Chimbai, Kantwadi, Ranwar, and parts of Waroda remain part of the parish to this day.



St. Peter's Church opened its doors in September 1853 to serve the growing Catholic population of Bandra. The present church was built in 1938 by Elias Cosmas Henriques, an East Indian from Culvem, Gorai, featuring stunning Romanesque-style architecture, a large marble statue of Christ the Redeemer, and beautiful stained-glass windows from Shanghai.



Basilica of Our Lady of the Mount, or Mount Mary as it is popularly known, began as a private oratory to serve Portuguese soldiers and was later transformed into the stunning Gothic church we see today. The original statue of Mother Mary had its hand cut off by Arab pirates around 1700 when they raided Bandra. A few decades later, the Marathas sacked the chapel, and the statue was lost once again! Legend has it that a Koli fisherman dreamt of a statue floating in the sea, and indeed it was found soon after. Lovingly called Mot Mauli or Pearl Mother, she is greatly revered by the East Indians of Mumbai who visit her every September, even to this day.



PC : Brendan Dias



Illustration by Darryl Baptista, Bandra



Bonny Pereira is felicitated by Walter Murzello - MGP Founder Trustee, Deepak More - Upa Vibhag Pramukh SS (UBT) and Karyakarta Leon Gomes.

THE HERITAGE HOLY CROSSES OF BANDRA

Britney Dharmaj, Bandra

Bandra's heritage crosses capture the spirit and fervour of its people, particularly its native East Indian Catholic population. Many of these crosses, which are scattered all over Bandra, were erected in the 1800s by residents during the many outbreaks of plague as symbols of faith and devotion that helped them through that period of hardship. Others were erected by residents as thanksgiving, at crossroads or abutting their houses.

PATLA MIRACLE CROSS

Built in 1825, this cross, known to be miraculous, completed 200 glorious years in May 2025. It was erected by the members of the East Indian Koli community who lived in what is today Bazar Road. The fishermen built the cross on a large flat rock in the intertidal area. The reclamation of the sea in the 1970s isolated the cross from the community and today it is surrounded by slums, and an SRA project which threatens its existence.

RANWAR SQUARE CROSS

Originally built in 1866 and rebuilt many years later, this cross in the village square of Ranwar serves as a focal point during the village's charming Christmas celebrations and was the center of village activity in the past. It is flanked by three charming, heritage cottages that add to its beauty.

MALLA CROSS

In the heart of Malla village, which adjoins Pali Hill, is a cross that was erected in 1897, a year after the first cases of the Bubonic Plague were recorded in Mumbai. It is one of the many "plague crosses" of Bandra, built to remember victims of the plague, thank God for protection during the plague or to ask Him for deliverance from pestilence. The heritage cross has been carefully restored by villagers multiple times since then.

ELLIAS D'SILVA CROSS

This is another cross that has completed two centuries and is the gateway to Sherly Village on Carter Road. Built on April 25, 1825 by Mr. Ellias Maria D'Silva and rebuilt on May 1, 1910 by his daughter Mrs. Anna Catharina Henriques, it is a testament to the faith that East Indians passed down from one generation to the next.

KANTWADI CROSS

Standing tall outside the Adelaide bungalow in Kantwadi is a beautiful stone cross that was built over a century ago by Mr. Pascol I. Rodricks in 1910 and is now cared for by the residents of Kantwadi. Today it serves as an important landmark and is surrounded by a beautiful grotto and heritage cottages.



Ellias D'Silva Cross



Kantwadi Cross



Ranwar Square Cross

VANDAR CHA SANN - MOUNT MARY CHURCH

A Bit of East Indian History :

- It was the zeal of the native Christians(Agris, Kunbis, Bhandaris, Kolis and many more later known as East Indians) that popularized the Bandra (Mot Mauli Cha Sann) Mount Mary Feast.
- In 1566 the Jesuits built a modest Oratory of mud and thatch and dedicated it to Our Lady of the Nativity
- In 1739 during Maratha invasion this chapel was destroyed and the statue was allegedly dumped into the sea which was rescued by the local fishermen and kept at St.Andrews Church
- In 1761 the Chapel was rebuilt and the statue was carried in procession and restored to its original place on the Mount
- In 1882 a glass enclosed portico was added to the Chapel for extra accommodation as more and more pilgrims came to the shrine to seek mothers blessings
- In 1904 the new Church was built, an edifice in gothic architectural style was opened to public after 2 years of construction
- It was the natives East Indians from Bandra and the islands of Salsette and North Konkan homeland that celebrated the feast of Our Lady of the Mount with great zeal and gusto
- The Thursday preceding the feast was called the "Farm Day" when sweets and cakes were baked in all homes of the East Indian communities.
- In those days specialty sweets were called Cucumber sweets called "Pan-Mouries" and "Umbers"
- Pigs were slaughtered on this day and East Indian delicacies like Vindalo and Ser-pe-tair were prepared
- A home brewed spiced alcoholic concoction popularly called "Khimad" was a "must" and was kept ready for the feast on the coming Sunday
- The Bandra East Indians invited all their relatives for the Celebration of the Feast in reciprocation, those relatives invited their Bandra counterparts for the Harvest Festival "Agera" which would soon follow
- Horse Tongas or "garras" plied from Bandra station to the very foot of the hill during the Church festivals
- Stalls were set up by North Indian and Konkan belt migrants selling black grams and sweets. Also temporary canteens were set up alongside the pathways selling food and special dishes for the pilgrims.
- It is said that the steps that go up the hill right up to the Church on the Mount was built by a Parsi Gentleman who had made a petition to Mother Mary after his wish was granted, and this childless couple were blessed with a child.



Source – Trace (Terry Rodrigues), Compiled by Gleason Barretto)



BETINICHI MAULI CHA SANN Mount Carmels Church Feast - Vandre(Bandra)

Feast day - 16th July

Parish Feast celebrated on - Sunday on or after feast day

- *This feast is celebrated at Bandra by East Indian parishioners and neighboring Community members on Sunday on or after 16th July
- *a Procession is organised wherein the priests are ferried in a tanga(horse chariot) with chatir(large umbrella) thru the Chapel Road till the parish
- *The procession is accompanied by the Confraternity of the parish
- *Local women are present at the procession dressed in the Traditional Lagra
- *East Indian brass band from the locality play hymns during the procession
- *Holy pictures and Betin(scapulars) are distributed during mass
- *Refreshments are served after the holy mass
- *The locals along with the brass band go dancing through the bylanes of Chapel Road as a part of the celebration
- *Traditionally the local residents throw buckets of water on those dancing on the streets as a part of the Celebrations
- *Locals serve refreshments to the band members and those dancing

PC : Brendan Dias



CLARENCE GOMES

Historical Aspect: What historical aspect of Bandra do you think is most significant, and how has it shaped the neighborhood's identity?

Bandra was an island which the Portuguese called Bandora while the Maharashtrians called it Vandre. The Bandra Fort was a landmark. Bandstand had many bands playing live music and so the word 'band' had a part to play in the naming of Bandra. Weddings in those days were held in madavs and not in wedding halls and lasted 8 days with the traditional Umbracha Pani, Paas Patni and such traditions. It was a festive atmosphere with everyone staying over in your house for many days. I recall Jesu Mama who was a matchmaker for the boys of Bandra who used to find matches with girls from the suburbs after Bandra.

Nostalgia or Memories: What nostalgic memories or experiences do you associate with Bandra? Are there any particular places or events that bring back fond memories?

This house where I stay in Bazaar Road is over 150 years old. In those days every house had a backyard where they reared pigs, cocks and hens. If there was a wedding in the family, someone from the house had to take the job to butcher the pig. Many East Indians learnt sports on Bazaar road. This helped them to secure employment in leading companies. While I would say that Bazaar Road was the first market area in Bandra, it was this very area and name that prevented my father from securing a membership to the Bandra Gymkhana because he lived on Bazaar road. At school, I was targeted because I lived on Bazaar Road. The place had some kind of notoriety which many in office took seriously, not knowing the real facts. I was in my teens around 14 years old, when I got a chance to compere my first show at Mt Carmels church.

Concern Issues: What are the most pressing issues or challenges facing Bandra today, and how can they be addressed?

Most East Indians are selling their houses to outsiders. These people come to Bandra with no discipline, hygiene and tradition. The disintegration of joint families living together broke away. Bandra is no longer the Queen of the Suburbs as the whole tapestry of the place has changed.

Describe Bandra in One Word: If you had to describe Bandra in just one word, what would it be and why?

Bandra is very cosmopolitan and secure compared to other townships in Mumbai.

How to Make Bandra East Indian Again: Given Bandra's rich East Indian heritage, what steps can be taken to preserve and promote the East Indian culture and identity in the area?

Catholic builders should buy property of the East Indians to rehabilitate the East Indian Catholics so that they will continue to stay in their own gaothan. This will help to maintain their heritage, culture and discipline.

Clarence Gomes is Editor - Bandra Times and President of Bandra Residents Action Group (BRAG). He is also former Executive Director, National Association for the Blind (NAB), He has written papers on various topics and has had discussions with former President of India Ms Pratibha Patil and former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee on the rehabilitation and employment of the visually impaired all over India.

MARK DHARMAI



Historical Aspect: What historical aspect of Bandra do you think is most significant, and how has it shaped the neighborhood's identity?

Bandra was composed of many villages, and a lot of them still exist like Pali, Ranwar, Chuim and Chimbai where I grew up. Each of these villages had their own unique identity. Residents of these were closely connected and there was a feeling of belonging and community. Some of these villages have disappeared but many still remain and these continue to be strong neighbourhoods that still shape Bandra.

Nostalgia or Memories: What nostalgic memories or experiences do you associate with Bandra? Are there any particular places or events that bring back fond memories?

Growing up in Bandra was a great experience. My father was a fisherman in Chimbai and I remember the fun we had playing on the beach which had proper sand at that time, and going on boat rides. We played games on the streets, and sometimes participated in organised tournaments such as Chimbai vs Ranwar. These tournaments shaped my love for sports. We also liked to go watch rink hockey tournaments at the Bandra Gymkhana, telegames organised by the various parishes in Bandra and get together for any occasion.

Concern Issues: What are the most pressing issues or challenges facing Bandra today, and how can they be addressed?

Many residents are being forced to give up or sell their homes to builders and because of this the population is changing. If there was a way to support our community to retain their homes and keep them within the community that would be good.

Describe Bandra in One Word: If you had to describe Bandra in just one word, what would it be and why?

Community. Everything in Bandra is about belonging to communities. The local village or neighbourhood community, the parish community, and even the larger Bandra community. We are very proud of the communities we have built.

How to Make Bandra East Indian Again: Given Bandra's rich East Indian heritage, what steps can be taken to preserve and promote the East Indian culture and identity in the area?

It is important to focus on the history of Bandra so people understand more about the people that shaped it over the centuries. We can also promote East Indian food, culture and handicrafts by having fun fairs and exhibitions on a regular basis.

Paralympic Athlete Mark Dharmai is an international para badminton player and is the 1st Indian to win Gold at the World Dwarf Games.



IRWIN ALMEIDA

Historical Aspect: What historical aspect of Bandra do you think is most significant, and how has it shaped the neighborhood's identity?

Bandra consisted of several villages with fields of rice and vegetables, and a western coastline stretching from north to south, and separated by a creek from the more developed city of Bombay.

The coastline extended from the Portuguese built Bandra fort in the south to Chimbai in the north, and from there along Carter Road to the fishing village of Danda. The area in the south along the bay was inhabited by the fishing community called Kolis. The original inhabitants of Bandra were 'sons of the soil'. I was schooled locally in a premier institution and enjoyed my growing up days.

Nostalgia or Memories: What nostalgic memories or experiences do you associate with Bandra? Are there any particular places or events that bring back fond memories?

Life in Bandra was peaceful and almost rural, well into the 1950s, people enjoyed a sense of security and as most of the inhabitants were Catholic, all the Catholic traditions and festivals were celebrated with enthusiasm and joy. Streets and churches would be lavishly decorated for feasts, delicious food including the famous sorpatel and fugias would be prepared. The imposition of prohibition spawned a new business of illegally distilling the local brew and several 'aunty's dens' flourished in the by lanes. All made merry including the cops who earned a stable 'hafta' for doing nothing but looking the other way

Concern Issues: What are the most pressing issues or challenges facing Bandra today, and how can they be addressed?

High-rise constructions came in only after India's partition which bought an influx of refugees and other migrants to swell the population. The fields and gardens have slowly made way for buildings. In the mid-1960s, a major part of the bay was reclaimed and was called Bandra Reclamation. Film stars and other celebrities moved in, bringing idol star-gazers to Bandra and creating more problem for the local police to keep these aimless crowds in check.

Describe Bandra in One Word: If you had to describe Bandra in just one word, what would it be and why?

The ethos and spirit of Bandra have changed.

How to Make Bandra East Indian Again: Given Bandra's rich East Indian heritage, what steps can be taken to preserve and promote the East Indian culture and identity in the area?

The East Indians should try to continue to retain their old houses and not move away and sell their property to builders.

Irwin Almeida is a former editor of the Indian Express and the East Indian Journal

Compiled by Verus Ferreira

Question of the month How to Make Bandra East Indian Again?



Culture survives best when it is served on the table. Bring East Indian flavours through Swiggy and Zomato at cost effective rates.

Dr. Ablin C. Alphonso Pali Village, Bandra West



Bandra can become East Indian again by organizing inclusive programs showcasing East Indian culture, traditions and culinary skills on digital media not only in Marathi but in English too, as today's youth would be attracted to social media posts showcasing our rich East Indian style.

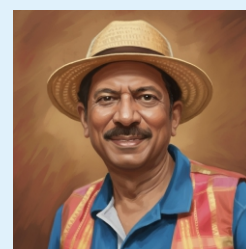
Mrs. Abigail Miranda
Perry Road, Bandra West



Have a meet and greet for only original East Indian families from Bandra West.

Bandra in one word: family (cousins by the dozens)

Lucille Rodrigues - Bandra



To make Bandra East Indian again we must celebrate its roots by reviving its heritage homes, strengthening the cultural presence and keep its traditions alive in everyday life.

Darryl Baptista - Chapel Road, Bandra

DID YOU KNOW?

Bandora is still seen on a few gravestones in the cemetery of St Andrew's church.

If you step onto the road outside St Andrew's church you will see the pyau (drinking water fountain) Heritage Water Fountain, which is a historical structure that dates back to 1894 presented by Jafferbhai Ludha Chatu EsQ. to the Municipality of Bandra.



In 1570 the Jesuits built a church and a college in Bandra called St Anne's, or 'Santa Anna' church

Many natives who worked for the British East India Company adopted the misnomer 'East Indians' and form the East Indian Association on May 26th 1887 to distinguish the 'sons of the soil', who were the first employees of the company.

The architect of Mount Mary's church was Bombay's Shahpoorjee Chandabhoy, the first time ever a non catholic was assigned to design a monument in India.

In 1879, Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy constructed a flight of steps from foot of Mt Mary hill to north side of church known as the Degrados de Bomanjee (steps of Bomanjee).

The oldest cross stands in St Andrew's church compound. It was originally at St Anne's but when the building was blown up on the orders of the English to prevent it falling into Maratha hands in the year 1737, the cross, its only original remnant, was relocated. It stands 17ft high and is carved out of a single stone, on its surface thirty-nine emblems of the passion of Jesus Christ.

St Stanislaus High School, started in 1863 as an orphanage for native boys by the Jesuits of St Peter's church, became a high school in 1923. It was first English medium school in the suburb.

In 1863, the first four F.C. (Daughters of the Cross) sisters came to Bandora (Bandra) and started a day school for village children that evolved into St Joseph's Convent High School in 1868.

Chimbai and Danda are where the last few Kolis of Bandra still manage to eke out a living from fishing.

There was an 18 hole golf course in Bandra called Danda Green with an English style Club House on the top of the hill, surrounded by trees.

By Verus Ferreira, Bandra

MGP IN THE NEWS - SUNDAY MIDDAY

Sunday, 24th August 2025 - Page 12 & 13

Mount Mary Restoration Project
May Mot Mauli Bless Our East Indian Community in the current Tough & Challenging Times

*MGPs continuous request for Restoration and not rebuilding or renovating seems to have been fulfilled with the Mount Marys Church Restoration project

*MGP will continue with its request to Bombay's Archdiocese to ensure all Mumbai Heritage churches are restored as specified in our EISA Policy

*MGPs demand for rebuilding the Dadar's Salvation Church, Bandra's Mount Carmel & Mahim's St Michael's as per it's original heritage facade will continue

*Congratulations to Architect David Cardoz & Vasai's Sequeira Brothers (Mingleshwar and Benzoni) for playing an active part in the Mount Mary Church Restoration project

*David Cardoz & Sequeira Brothers were recipients of MGPs East Indian Community Awards

For suggestions & feedback regards to Restoration of Churches please e-mail mghpmobai@gmail.com

Restoration plays an important role in East Indian Heritage, History, Existence and Identity

MGP - Restore! Revive! Reclaim!



The Mount Mary Basilica bears a fresh new look following its restoration. The blue and cream colour story have been replaced by the warm wood tones of the stored Burma teak ceiling, columns and doors and windows.

used copper pellets to scrape old paint — seven layers of it, church officials tell us — to expose the wood underneath.

It's a mark of increasing efforts to preserve Catholic heritage in the city, with a push to restore rather than rebuild churches, as used to be done earlier, says Gleason Barretto, founder trustee of Mobai Gaothan Panchayat.

Another highlight is the restored canvas painting of Mary, Queen of Heaven, now hanging over the altarpiece. PICS/KIRTI SURVE PARADE

Another surprise was the discovery of an original canvas painting that once hung over the arch of the inner sanctum.

OVERLOOKING ST. ANTHONY'S GROUND

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THE BANDRA FAIR OF YORE

By Verus Ferreira

Come September and Bandraiters get ready for the annual Bandra Fair to mark the birthday of Mother Mary. People of all faiths from all over Mumbai and other parts of the country throng the Basilica of Our Lady of the Mount to worship and seek her blessings.

But taking a leaf out of history, one cannot forget the good old days of the Bandra Fair, when we used to visit the Bandra Fair walking down the steps peeking into all the stalls on the way down. The crowd for one was more civilized and decent. People came for the feast with friends and families and visited their near and dear ones at Bandra. Ladies from the neighboring areas, to families from outside Mumbai would hire a stall at the Fair selling traditional delicacies and sweet meats from Goa, Kerala and other places. The black channa a favorite of many, made good gifts to take home. If you happened to pass by any of the old villages of Bandra (Ranwar, Chuim, Pali, Sherly Rajan) you wouldn't miss the whiff of delicacies like East Indian fugias, vindaloo and sorpatel being prepared. There was merriment and joy in the air.



**Photo at a Studio in the Bandra Fair
Author (Verus Ferreira)
with his cousin Dean Pereira
seated on Jawa 250cc bike
at Bandra Fair 1979**

The amusement rides were the major attractions at that time. For 5 rupees you'd get a long ride on the giant wheel, the sea – on – land, merry go round or the cup saucers rides. The candy floss would give pink moustaches all the way back home.

The Well of Death left everyone in a daze, cars and bikes spinning in the well defining the laws of gravity. Who can forget the dog show? Do you remember feeling embarrassed when the trainer asked the dog to smell out the person who had not had a bath? Or the Magic Mirrors? You suddenly had Sandra from Bandra looking seductive in the magic mirror? Did you remember to take a photo at the Photo Booths lining the streets and the tattoo artists outside? While that was a lot of laughing matter, the Fair also once had wild animals like the lion, tiger on display in filthy and small cages near the foot of the steps.

The September Garden's Jam Session for the youth organized by the youth of Mt, Carmel Parish was a hit. Entry was a meagre 100 rupees and was restricted to couples. Booze was strictly prohibited. So the only way to get through 'security' was to ask the girls to smuggle in quarters of whisky and cigarettes in their handbags. You had disco lights and the works, it was the place to be every evening, with a DJ blasting the latest chartbusters, or a live band playing until 11 – 11.30 pm after which many snaked their way to Yacht Restaurant for more spirits or just hop over to 'Rock Around The Clock' (RATC) the only disco in Bandra at that time. During the same week another mela off Hill Road at St. Sebastian's ground known as the WIGWAM was another hot favorite.

But that was till the later 90s, what's left of the fair now? Commercialization has taken over. The crowds have changed, there is a mela of filth, noise and rowdy's mingling around. Besides the solemnity of the novena at the Mount, nothing much to write home about. While walking down the steps hypnotized to the smell of pork sorpatel and vindaloo right till Chapel road, you now instead get the smell of bhajias, pav bhaji, biryani, vada pav and misal pav.

Unlike then, the amusement rides now get over just when you feel you are on top of the world. The toy shops sell the latest Chinese gizmos, readymade clothesline, lingerie, footwear, to tandoori chicken, biryani and fast foods. The balloon man is hardly seen, but thankfully you might see the soap bubbles and the phat phat candle lit tin boats. But what's really left for the family, is the September Garden and the Home for the Aged compounds that still keeps the spirit alive with music and activities.

The Bandra Fair, oh how wonderful it was then.

There are many versions of how the statue of Our Lady of the Mount came to be. It has been said that the fair started when a statue of Mother Mary with a severed right arm was found floating in the Arabian Sea sometime during the mid 1700s by Koli fishermen. It was re – installed in the church and a child Jesus replaced the detached scepter from the severed arm. After the visit to the Basilica devotees then head to the Fair beginning from the Basilica meandering its way down the Mount Mary steps and onto the road (St. John Baptist Road) ending at Mount Carmel Church. This tradition has been in practice since the last 300 years or so. It's interesting to know that the tradition has still been kept intact, but the Fair in particular is getting more and more commercialized with each passing year.

EAST INDIANS AND BANDRA GAOTHANS: UNVEILING THE RICH HISTORY OF A FORGOTTEN ERA

Bandra, a charming suburb in Mumbai, has a rich history that dates back to the 16th century. From its origins as a tiny fishing village to its current status as a thriving residential hub, Bandra has undergone significant transformations over the years. One of the most fascinating aspects of Bandra's history is the story of the East Indians, the original residents of the area.

The East Indians: Sons of the Soil

The East Indians were a community of Christians who were converted by the Portuguese in the 16th century. They were the first employees of the East India Company and played a crucial role in the development of Bombay. To distinguish themselves from other Indian Christians who migrated to Bombay, the East Indians formed the East Indian Association on May 26, 1887.

Bandra's Gaothans: A Glimpse into the Past

Bandra consisted of several villages, including Sherly, Malla, Rajan, Kantwady, Waroda, Ranwar, Boran, Pali, and Chuim. These gaothans were the heart of Bandra's community life, with their own unique traditions and customs. Ranwar, for instance, was famous for its tennis court and Christmas celebrations.

A Rich Cultural Heritage

Bandra's cultural heritage is a reflection of its diverse history. From the iconic Mount Mary's Church to the historic St. Andrew's Church, Bandra is home to some of Mumbai's most beautiful and historic landmarks. The suburb's streets are lined with charming cottages, each with its own unique story to tell.

The Evolution of Bandra

Over the years, Bandra has undergone significant changes. From a tranquil suburb with a few cottages and gardens to a thriving residential hub, Bandra has evolved into a cosmopolitan neighborhood. The construction of the railway line in 1867 and the building of the Mahim Causeway in 1845 opened up Bandra to the rest of Bombay, paving the way for its transformation.

Preserving Bandra's Legacy

As Bandra continues to grow and evolve, it's essential to preserve its rich history and cultural heritage. By learning about the East Indians and Bandra's gaothans, we can gain a deeper understanding of the suburb's unique identity and the people who call it home.

A Must-Read for All Bandra Residents and Nostalgia Seekers

This article is a must-read for anyone interested in Bandra's history and cultural heritage. Whether you're a resident, a history buff, or simply someone who loves nostalgia, this article will take you on a journey through time, exploring the fascinating story of East Indians and Bandra's gaothans. So, sit back, relax, and absorb the rich history of this charming suburb.

Gaothan Kala

East Indian Lugras and accessories

Lugras, embroidered/ready to drape lugras, kurtas, shirts, surkhas, pleated lugra material, jewellery and accessories

Contact Info.

Add: H.No 3/A, Benny Jacinto House,
Koloverly Village, Kalina,
Santacruz (E), Mumbai - 98



Landmark - Kalina Masjid Lane, Opp Palm Villa Apt, Chris Chinese Corner

Mob No: 7045022631 / 9321335674



GROOMS WANTED

*RC, El Spinster looking for a suitable alliance, 27 years old, 5'6" residing in Mumbai. She is a B.COM Graduate currently working as a specialist in Accounting. If interested kindly share profile & recent photographs on celestegomes779@gmail.com.

*Alliance needed for an RC El Spinster, 36 years old, 5'8" residing in Mumbai. She is a Masters in Information Management. Currently working as an Associate Manager. If interested kindly share your profile & recent photographs on barrowvenishka@gmail.com.

*Alliance needed for an RC El Spinster, 26 years old, 5'2" residing in Mumbai. She is a MBBS Doctor. Currently working for a reputed Hospital in Mumbai. Kindly reply with profile & recent full size photograph on marydsouza620@gmail.com.

BRIDES WANTED

*RC El Bachelor 28 years old, 5'9" residing in Mumbai. Having a degree in ITM - IHM (Bachelor of Arts in International Hospitality & Tourism Management). Currently working in Caribbean Cruises as a Head Butler. Kindly share details (profile with recent photographs on rocky64dsouza@gmail.com).

*Seeking an Alliance for an RC El Bachelor, 28 years old, 5'9" residing in Pune. He has a MBA degree & currently employed as a Logistics Coordinator in an MNC Swedish Company in Pune. Kindly reply with profile & recent photographs on brandonpereira1997@gmail.com / bernardgba@gmail.com.

*Seeking an Alliance for an RC El Bachelor, 32 years old, 5'7" residing in Mumbai. He has a degree in Bachelor of Engineering Information Technology. Currently working as a Senior IT Project Manager in a MNC. Those interested in this alliance kindly share your profile with recent photographs on clint.tix@gmail.com.

*Seeking an Alliance for an RC El bachelor, 37 years old, 5'11" residing in Mumbai. He is a BSc Graduate. Currently working as a Manager in a reputed Hotel. If interested in this alliance kindly share your profile with recent photographs on ryanagomes@gmail.com.

*Seeking a life partner for RC El Bachelor, 35 years old, 5'4" residing in Mumbai. He is a Bachelor in Arts & currently working as an Procurement Officer in a reputed firm. Those seeking an alliance kindly share profile with recent photographs on joselyn.norris14@gmail.com.

*Seeking a suitable match for an RC El Bachelor, 32 years old, 5'9" residing in Mumbai. He is a BMS graduate & currently working as an WFM Scheduling Analyst at Teleperformance. If interested in this alliance kindly share profile with recent photographs on jacksonkoli@gmail.com.

*Seeking an alliance for an RC El Bachelor, 32 years old, 5'9" residing in Mumbai. He has a degree in BSc Nautical Science & is currently working as a 3rd Officer with a Ship Management Ltd Co. If interested kindly share your profile with recent photographs on santosdahlin@gmail.com.

*RC East Indian Bachelor 33 years old, 5'5" residing in Mumbai. He has a degree in Bachelors in Commerce & currently working as an Investment Banking Operations Manager. If interested in this alliance kindly share your profile & recent photographs on sheldonsutari123@gmail.com.

CAVEAT

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**Students.. Housewives .
Senior Citizens.. Language
Experts..**

**East Indian Dictionary - 2nd
Edition**

1000 Copies of 1st Edition - SOLD
OUT

The Mobai Gaothan Panchayat (MGP) is calling for support team members for the 2nd edition of the East Indian Dictionary, slated for release by 2026. Here are the details:

Support Team Roles

- **Overall Coordinator:** Oversee the entire project
- **Editorial Team Member:** Assist with editing and compiling dictionary content
- **Edits Coordinator:** Manage and implement edits
- **Finance Manager:** Handle financial aspects of the project
- **Logistics Manager:** Coordinate logistics for the project
- **Mailing List Coordinator:** Manage mailing lists for promotions and updates
- **Photo Coordinator:** Handle photography-related tasks

How to Support

If you're interested in supporting the 2nd edition of the East Indian Dictionary, you can:

- **WhatsApp:** Contact MGP at 9820545302
- **Donate:** Contribute to the project through bank cheques drawn in favor of "Mobai Gaothan Panchayat" (donations in INR only)

Project Background

The East Indian Dictionary project aims to promote and preserve the East Indian dialect. The first edition was released on January 12, 2019, and the MGP plans to release new editions with updated words and informative content. The organization also engages in language awareness initiatives through music and entertainment.



BANDRA GYMKHANA

Simply East Indian



MGP MEMORANDUM TO THE BANDRA GYMKHANA

Objective - Enhancing Representation and Cultural Integration of East Indians at Bandra Gymkhana

- Discounted Membership Fees:**
Reduce gym membership fees for East Indians and provide first preference for membership to East Indians.
- East Indian Baazaar:**
Permit the East Indian Baazaar to be held twice a month at the Gymkhana.
- Cultural Events:**
Allow cultural events organized by registered East Indian groups to be held at the Gymkhana.
- Meetings and Seminars:**
Permit meetings, seminars, and conferences for the East Indian community to be held at the Gymkhana.
- Performances:**
Feature East Indian bands/artists to perform at the Gymkhana once a month.
- Catering Contracts:**
Prioritize East Indian vendors for catering and other contracts, considering costs, quality, and service.
- Professional Services:**
Engage advocates and chartered accountants from the East Indian community, subject to their reputation, dedication, and performance.
- Discounts for Family Functions:**
Offer discounts to East Indian members for family functions, especially for students.
- East Indian Food Festival:**
Organize a special East Indian food festival at the Gymkhana once a year, similar to the Versova Food Festival.
- Monthly Food Festivals:**
Include East Indian specials in the monthly food festivals organized by the Bandra Gym restaurant.
- Restaurant Menu:**
Add a special lineup of East Indian food to the restaurant menu.
- Tribute to Heritage Figures:**
Place a photo frame/bust of Saint Gonsalo Garcia and Kaka Baptista in a prominent location at the Gymkhana.
- Community-Themed Hall:**
Give the East Indian Hall a community theme that reflects the heritage, culture, tradition, and history of the East Indian community.
- Dedicated Tournament:**
Dedicate a Bandra Gymkhana facility or tournament to Saint Gonsalo Garcia and Kaka Baptista.
- Representation in Leadership:**
Ensure that Section Heads of the Gymkhana are from the East Indian community, subject to qualifications, efficiency, dedication, and commitment.

THE BANDRA GYMKHANA
SIMPLY EAST INDIAN
SINCE 1935

We believe that these proposals will help promote the cultural identity and representation of the East Indian community at the Bandra Gymkhana while ensuring that qualifications, efficiency, and commitment are considered in all decisions.

Drafted by Mobai Gaothan Panchayat - Basis feedback and suggestions from BG Members & the East Indian Community

MGP MEMORANDUM TO MOUNT MARY'S CHURCH & ARCHDIOCESE OF BOMBAY

Top 10 points for consideration:

1. **Two Daily Marathi Holy Mass Services:** Conduct two daily Marathi Holy Mass services on all 8 days of the octave week, recognizing Marathi as the Maharashtra State language.
2. **East Indian Hymn:** Use the East Indian hymn "Devache Mae" as recessional hymns for all Holy Mass services during the week instead of Konkani.
3. **East Indian Marathi Holy Mass:** Hold an East Indian Marathi Holy Mass on the last Saturday, 20th September 2025, after MGP's annual procession reaches the Church.
4. **Special Stalls Zone:** Allocate a special zone of around 10 stalls for the East Indian Baazaar near the Counselling Centre or in front of it.
5. **Welcome Banner:** Display a banner with the message "The Bhumi Putra East Indian Community welcomes you to the Bandra Fair".
6. **Priority for Indigenous People Stalls:** Give priority to Indigenous People stalls for handicrafts, food, and merchandise on the Mount Mary steps. Stalls to be allotted at special subsidised rates
7. **Heritage Structure Restoration:** Restore the Mount Mary Church, a heritage structure, every year before the festival.
8. **Fund Generation Stall:** Set up a stall for fund generation at the steps entrance for the St. Gonsalo Garcia Chapel, an MGP project.
9. **Promote MGP's Annual Procession:** Popularize the "Mot Mauli Purcessao" (MGP's Annual Procession) from Mahim Church to the Mount through church announcements.
10. **Special Mention in Ads:** Include a special mention of MGP's Annual Procession in The Examiner ads to revive memories of the first procession.



Vailankanni Textile

Lugra Hai aple "East Indian chi Shaan"

ईस्ट इंडियन सुती लुगडी मिळतील कमी कीमतीत दरा

★ ईस्ट इंडियन लुगडी मिळतील.

★ फुलांच्या सोनकाऱ्या

★ ६ मीटर लुगडा साडी

★ लुगडा शर्ट

★ कुर्ता व ड्रेस मटेरिल

★ सुती लुगडी व सुती सोनकारी




Palmira Dalmat

Mob.: 9930745461 d_palmira28

Rejected Lugas for Ghodari and Balotri available

📍 Case De Graca, St. Francis Nagar, Karaipada, Uttan Pali Road, Bhayandar (W)



BhumEi

East Indians - Indigenous People of Mumbai



Mission BMC Elections Mobai Gaothan Panchayat initiative

Bandra Nostalgia - Do we want Bandra going 10+ years back or what it's today and move forward???

Popular Line - Throw a Stone in Bandra & it will fall on a Pereira, Priest or a Pig..

In the 1950s and before Bandra was truly Christian and lived together as one irrespective of caste, creed or religion.

More than 10 years ago we saw the demographic changes across Bandra. In the last 10+ years many things have been revived to the lost glory and there is much more to do..

Do we care for the present and future of Bandra citizens especially our family???

Last 10+ Years this is what Bandra has seen and can continue to do so

Beach beautification - we saw our Beach fronts get a facelift

Active Christmas Celebrations - our promeades are all lit up with festival lights with a special concert to set the mood

Nationalist - we have seen inclusion of art installations to showcase our nationalism

Development of Infra - road are much better and flood situations seem to improve

Restoration of Heritage - Mount Mary Church, Bandra Station & Bandra Fort have been restored and soon some Gaothans too

Active Support & Participation - the local activists and leaders have given the best support possible & actively participated in social & religious events

Women's Safety - a very important need has been given due priority

Empowered activists - ALMs & leaders given powers to resolve issues directly

Senior Citizens Security - this need of our constituency has been assured

Transformation guaranteed - if we continue like what we witnessed for the last 10+ years we are sure to see a much better and Vibrant Bandra

Choose Wisely Bandraites... Make Your Vote Count

Do you want to go backwards 10 years or more forward for a Better Bandra

Let's Together KEEP Bandra the Best

To be a part and actively participate in BMC Elections plans can email at mgpmobai@gmail.com. MGP will support candidates based on past records or potential irrespective of their political party or even if they contest as independent candidates. Selection for MGP preferred candidates will be by review and feedback basis point ratings (minimum 3 out of 5). Preference to local candidates irrespective of caste creed or religion

Bhumiputra Dees - Bhumiputra Diwas World Indigenous People Day 9th August 2025

MGP's Special Announcements

*Sunday after the Indigenous People Day will now be observed as Bhumiputra Aitwar (Indigenous People Sunday)

*Top 10 Bhumiputra issues will be released & communicated to the authorities

*Mumbai Bhumiputra Policy to be presented to Political and Government authorities for implementation

*East Indian Samaj Archdiocese - EISA Policy to be presented to the religious leaders for compliance

*Maharashtra State Government to be requested to observe 9th August as Maharashtra Bhumiputra Diwas

*Projects and Prominent locations to be dedicated to popular Bhumiputra leaders

*All Maharashtra Bhumiputra's to be officially recognised by government and support given for their culture and tradition

*Aagripadas, Koliwadadas and Gaothans should be Specially demarcated and identified as places of heritage and historical relevance due to their Indigenous existence

*Bhumiputra Samaj nominated leaders should be empowered to recommend for State and City development

Together as One Family, we the Bhumiputra Samaj - Aagri Koli East Indians appeal to all for your Prayers and Support.



**BASSEIN CATHOLIC
CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD**
(SCHEDULED BANK)

BASSEIN CATHOLIC BANK PRESENTS CANCER PROTECT POLICY

Cancer has become one of the most deadly diseases posing significant threats to human life and well-being in our society. A cancer-specific health insurance policy provides financial protection against the high costs of cancer treatment. It helps cover expenses for chemotherapy, radiation, surgery, and other related treatments. It enable policyholders to focus on recovery rather than worrying about medical bills. Having cancer-specific insurance can be a lifeline during a challenging time.

Considering this need of the hour, Bassein Catholic Bank is pleased to present to you BCCB CANCER PROTECT policy in association with Manipal Cigna Health Insurance.

The salient features of this policy are as below:

1. Direct benefit of Rs. 5 lakhs or Rs. 10 lakhs credited into the customer's account at diagnosis of Cancer.
2. Nominal annual premium of Rs. 1500 or Rs. 2500 as per your preference.
3. Amount credited to your account without need for hospitalisation, irrespective of whether you have another health insurance policy.

THE FORGOTTEN CHAPEL OF CALVARIO: A BANDRA LEGACY



Hidden away on Pali Hill in Bandra lies the remnants of a historical gem – the Chapel of Our Lady of Calvario. Built in 1890 by the Fonseca brothers, this chapel once thrived as a spiritual hub for the local community. Today, it stands abandoned, a testament to neglect and time.

A Walk Through History

During Lent, devotees would ascend the hill, chanting hymns and pausing at each of the 14 crosses. The chapel's significance was palpable, with the community coming together for holy services. The Fonseca brothers' dedication to their faith and community is evident in the chapel's construction and the beautiful statues that adorned it.

The Decline

As time passed, the chapel's upkeep suffered due to inadequate funds. The wooden railings, statues, and other essentials were relocated to St. Anne's Church, Pali Hill. Today, the chapel lies in ruins, its walls cracked, and its roof caving in. Spiders and creepers have claimed it as their own.

A Legacy Lost

The chapel's history is slowly fading away. The engraved tombstones that once told the stories of families buried there are nowhere to be seen. A handwritten note detailing the names of kin buried at the chapel is one of the few remaining records of its past.

A Call to Action

Before it's too late, take a walk down Calvario Hill Road and witness the remnants of this once-thriving chapel. Let's hope that its history and significance won't be lost forever.

Location: 37 Calvario, Pali Hill Road, Bandra (West)

Preserve the Past

Let's work together to preserve the legacy of the Chapel of Our Lady of Calvario.

Unveiling Bandra's Hidden Heritage: Saint Anne Church Memorial

Mumbai's Bandra, a charming suburb with a rich history, boasts a legacy that dates back to the 16th century. The area's name is derived from the Marathi word "B andar," meaning a sea-side port or harbor. Let's dive into the fascinating history of Bandra's first church, Saint Anne's.



A Royal Legacy

In 1570, King Sebastian confirmed the donation of Bandra to the Jesuits, which was later reaffirmed by the Royal Court of Lisbon in 1572. The Jesuits arrived in Bandra in 1573, describing it as a verdant seaside village with a modest harbor.

The First Church

The College and Church inside the fort were built in 1583. The church feast was celebrated on July 26th every year, honoring St. Joaquim and St. Anne. Unfortunately, the fort and church were destroyed in the Portuguese-Maratha War in 1739.

A Legacy Remembered

Today, MGP requests a memorial dedicated to Saint Anne Church, the first church in Bandra. We propose building this memorial near the Bandra Railway Station, where the church once stood.

Join Us

Let's work together to preserve Bandra's history and heritage. We wish you a Happy Feast of St. Joaquim and St. Anne!

Key Dates:

- 1570: King Sebastian confirms donation of Bandra to Jesuits
- 1572: Royal Court of Lisbon reaffirms donation
- 1573: Jesuits arrive in Bandra
- 1583: College and Church built
- 1739: Fort and Church destroyed

Let's Preserve Our Heritage

Join MGP in sending a communication to Adv. Ashish Shelar, MLA – Bandra West, to build a memorial dedicated to Saint Anne Church. Let's give back to our community and preserve our rich history!

Let's work together to preserve the legacy of the Chapel of Our Lady of Calvario.



EICA 2025

Appreciation The East Indian Way



East Indian Community Awards - EICA 2025 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 Sportsman 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 2025

Encourage * Inspire *
Commend * Appreciate

SPONSOR RATES -

Awards category Sponsors
- 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/-
Awards category Sponsors
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 2025

A Privilege To Sponsor MGPs
Awards Trophy

Venue - St Andrew's Auditorium,
Bandra West

Awards category Sponsors 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 requirements

To sponsor or for more
details contact
9820545302/9820087771

EICA - A Mobai Gaothan
Panchayat Initiative



EATING OUT IN BANDRA

FRENY'S

By Verus Ferreira

Freny's on Waterfield Road, is helmed by Chef Freny Fernandes, and is a restaurant that is known for serving East Indian delicacies (from Freny's roots as an East Indian), but also cuisine from different parts of the world. You will find Italian treats, café styled snacks, salads and of course the most delectable East Indian main course meals and drink. For the Bandra Feast, Freny's recently added the East Indian veg Thali to their menu packed with all the EI flavours.

CAFÉ ANDORA

Across from St. Andrews School and College on St. Dominic Road, this cafe is housed in a quaint bungalow and is a must haunt not just for the college circle who throng the place for early and fast food to mini lunches, but a neighborhood spot to pick up snacks and mini meals.

CANDIES

A Portuguese-style villa restaurant with a casual, arty vibe and a menu consisting of global dishes, while also serving shakes, soft drinks including tasty rolls, puffs, sandwiches, a variety of cakes and so much more. The restaurants spread across Bandra also serves sandwiches, rolls, salads, mini meals and a fusion of other cuisine.

KALPANA SNACKS

Owned by the late Christopher (Chris Caterers) family, Kalpana snacks is located on Chapel Road and stocks East Indian delicacies from fugias, potato chops, pan rolls, to regular Gen N favorites like burgers and chicken rolls with prices to fit every pocket.

ZITA'S SNACK SHACK

Herbert Pessio's East Indian hotspot Snack Shack is a great place for a light snack or a hearty meal. Here you will find East Indian potato chops and pan rolls, East Indian patties, sandwiches and pastries and a variety of curries from sorpatel, vindaloo, chicken moilee, and lots more, all reasonably priced

J HEARSCH & CO

J Hearsch & Co., is a most sought after Bandra bakery that flanks Holy Family Hospital on Hill Road. Tucked away from the main road in a large compound, the bakery is part of an old bungalow with a rich history and background that it traces to World War I when a German-Jewish baker Jacob Hearsch sold his establishment due to wartime pressures. Through multiple ownership changes the bakery has maintained its legacy and is still a beloved part of Bandra's culinary landscape with even a few SoBo folk trotting in on for a hearty meal. Visit here for chicken rolls, burgers, pattices, a variety of biscuits and other snacks.

A1 BAKERY

This bakery has been a local favorite for years and is a must visit for the morning walkers. A bakery from the 60s, it stocks delicious buns, mutton patties, chicken pan rolls, chicken puffs, mawa cakes, garlic bread loaf and chicken rolls that are reasonably priced for anyone wanting a quick snack. Situated right opposite Carmel Convent school, this tiny establishment with a nearby general restaurant packs a punch for a meeting place over a cup of tea.

AMERICAN EXPRESS BAKERY

This 1906-established bakery, which underwent a 2016-refurb, is one of the other popular places that doles out bread, multigrain and whole wheat bread options. Situated diagonally opposite Holy Family hospital, their bakery products like bread pudding, crossiants among many other food stuff make for a perfect evening snack.

Collated by Verus Ferreira





MGP NOTICE BOARD

East Indian Community Announcements



Rev. Fr. D. G. Almeida Educational Fund

% Cleden Holm, 15th Road, Bandra, Mumbai 400050

Phone: % 7045739157 / 9769422921

email : % jocille10@gmail.com

Awards for Academic Excellence 2024-2025

This Educational Fund was founded by the late Fr. D. G. Almeida of Thane, for the empowerment of children, to help them aspire for a higher education.

Applications are invited from **East Indian** students who have passed Standard 10, Standard 12, Graduate (Degree), at the first attempt, from any recognised Board/University, with minimum percentage as detailed below; and those proceeding for Ecclesiastical studies.

***Standard 10: 90%**

Graduate (Degree) : 'A Grade'/First Class

***Standard 12: Science/Commerce : 80%**

***Proceeding for Ecclesiastical Studies**

Arts : 75%

Trustees:

Mr. Jude Gomes (Chairman)

Mr. Joseph A. J. Pereira

Mrs. Delyse D'souza

Mrs. Lucille Rodrigues - Fund Secretary

Mrs. Jennifer Pereira

Mr. Tony D'silva

Application forms are available with the Secretary.

Last date for submission of application forms is **September 30th, 2025**



MOBAI GAOTHAN PANCHAYAT DONOR MEMBERSHIP PLAN



SILVER

5,000/-

Benefits

- Vive Queimada - Rs 500/-
- Ei Books - Rs. 200/-
- Umbrella - Rs 300/-
- Sukhala bag - Rs 100/-
- Gaothan Voice @ doorstep - Rs 300/-
- East Indian Calendar - upto 5 worth Rs 500/-
- East Indian Merchandise - Rs 100/-

Benefits worth
Rs. 2000/-

GOLD

10,000/-

Benefits

- Vive Queimada - Rs 1000/-
- Ei Books - Rs. 500/-
- Umbrella - Rs 300/-
- Sukhala bag - Rs 100/-
- Gaothan Voice @ doorstep - Rs 300/-
- East Indian Calendar - upto 10 worth Rs 1000/-
- East Indian Merchandise - Rs 500/-

Benefits worth
Rs. 3700/-

DIAMOND

25,000/-

Benefits

- Vive Queimada - Rs 1500/-
- Ei Books - Rs. 1000/-
- Umbrella - Rs 400/-
- Sukhala bag - Rs 100/-
- Gaothan Voice @ doorstep - Rs 300/-
- East Indian Calendar - upto 25 worth Rs 2500/-
- East Indian Merchandise - Rs 1000/-

Benefits worth
Rs. 6800/-

PLATINUM

1,00,000/-

Benefits

- Vive Queimada - Rs 2500/-
- Ei Books - Rs. 2000/-
- Umbrella - Rs 500/-
- Sukhala bag - Rs 100/-
- Gaothan Voice @ doorstep - Rs 300/-
- East Indian Calendar - upto 50 worth Rs 5000/-
- East Indian Merchandise - Rs 2500/-

Benefits worth
Rs. 12900/-

Account Name- Mobai Gaothan Panchayat | Bank Name- Bassein Catholic Cooperative Bank | Branch - Kalina

Saving Account Number - 032100100000791 | IFSC Code - BACB0000032



VANDARCHA GAAV KONACHA EAST INDIAN LOKANCHACHA

Let's Make Bandra East Indian Again

Gleason Barretto, Old Kurla

Bring back! O bring back! O bring back our bandra to us!!! Making Bandra East Indian again may be just a dream, but there are elements that we can include to showcase the East Indian connect. We need to make an exhaustive list of elements to be installed across Bandra at promenades, prominent spots, street corners, gardens, traffic islands and most importantly Gaothans. The focus should be to bring about the pride of being a Bandraite. Bringing back memories of historical places or spots within Bandra will help visitors relate to its glorious past. Flags & signages at Gaothans should be installed to display its East Indian identity.

Awareness initiatives need to be planned across the year showcasing the rich East Indian culture and traditions. A week or a month long East Indian themed Bandra Festival to be organised. East Indian themed dinners, celebrations should be held ideally every week. Heritage tours based on Bandra's history and the Gaothans should be regularly planned. Customs like Umbrachapani should pass through roads in the pure traditional way. Introze and Sanjao should be celebrated across all Gaothans as they have a great potential to bring the East Indian feel of these two festivals. The end objective should be to make Bandra deeply connected to its East Indianness.

Natives of Bandra are getting a strong feeling their Gaothans are being ignored. Bandra village once boasted of 24 Gaothans and Pakhadis combined but only a handful can be seen today due to rapid development. Gaothans should be the spotlight across Bandra. Each Gaothan should have a group with representatives who meet regularly to plan the way forward for protection and preservation of the Gaothan. Inter Gaothan activities and competitions can also encourage talent and create a platform for villagers with potential. During the month of May community rosary should be organised at Holy Crosses and September could have Marian themed novenas prayers.

Dream first and then work on its execution. An East Indian Dream Bank needs to be created based on multiple suggestions. A robust implementation plan by experts and activists can be created. A majority of MGP Advisors who are professionals, entrepreneurs, social workers and influencers are based in Bandra. A group of like minded Bandraites must come together with a common objective to promote and protect Bandra which has a rich history and heritage. To begin with, we have the upcoming municipal elections where we need to have as many community candidates across party lines or as independents.

Restoration projects are on the rise but they need a bigger uplift. Heritage structures like Bandra Railway Station, Bandra Fort and Mount Mary Church have been restored to their former glory. MGPs Gaothan Restoration project needs to be implemented across all Gaothans. Restoration of heritage structures and installations should be supported and renovation with inconsistent additions should not be entertained. A Government Funded Gaothan Houses Restoration Scheme could also be launched keeping in mind the heritage of the area. Heritage structure and installations should have signages detailing the history and significance.

Active participation and support is the key to succeed in this challenging plan to make Bandra East Indian again. Monthly or quarterly community meetups can help create the momentum we urgently need. East Indian Community members should come forward for all events and activities organised to promote our culture and tradition. We need to get churches involved as many of the meetups can be held at church venues. The community members need to have a strong East Indian heart if we have to succeed. Celebrate Bandra was a great concept but giving it a bigger East Indian touch is needed. It's time Bandra's Indigenous People, the East Indian Community comes together to rebuild whatever we can as one united family. MGP Team will be more than happy to help and drive this plan to make Bandra East Indian again.



GAOTHAN ADS VILLA

The Village Advertisement Space



EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY

GAOTHAN VOICE FAMILY

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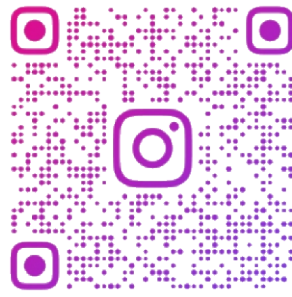
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Contact Info.
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Santacruz (E), Mumbai - 98

Landmark - Kalina Masjid Lane, Opp Palm Villa Apt, Chris Chinese Corner

Mob No: 7045022631 / 9321335674

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A Mobai Gaothan Panchayat Initiative



EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY

For Gaothan Store at the museum
Collet Kinny 9167130921

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- * East Indian Lugras
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- * 6mtr Lugras Sarees
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- * Kurta & Dress Material
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Mob.: 9930745461
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Articles on sale - East Indian food



Sunita Alphonso
9892613407

John Building, 102, Near Income Tax Office,
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Vailankanni Food Cart
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Articles On Sale -
Vindaloo, Sorpotel, Roast,
Potato Chops, Pan Rolls, Cutlets,
Burgers, Wraps, Sandwiches And Fries



Clarence Rodricks - 8551024915
Opp Lawrence Park,
Near little Rose Nursery School, Naigaon (West).

AN INVITE TO BE A PART OF MOBAIKAR GAOTHAN STORE

- *Can be operated from home, shop, festival stalls or on wheels
 - *Owner can also sell things prepared or manufactured on their own or procure articles from locals for sale
 - *MGP will provide books, Merchandise, home made products prepared by Self help groups and other products as decided from time to time
 - *MGP will try to give around 20% against each article on sale
 - *Monthly sale updates to be given by this Gaothan shop owners
 - *Self help groups especially those local ones can use this mode actively
 - *Owners to display the board provided by MGP to promote this Gaothan store concept
 - *product list to be provided by MGP monthly or as needed from time to time
 - *A Display board will be provided by MGP
 - *MGP will also provide support for promotion material and promote the concept on social media platforms and it's monthly magazine
- Those interested in being a part of the Mobaikar store concept or the Self Help Group can WhatsApp us on 8886225903 / 9820545302

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 opened by next 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

A/C No : 032100100000792

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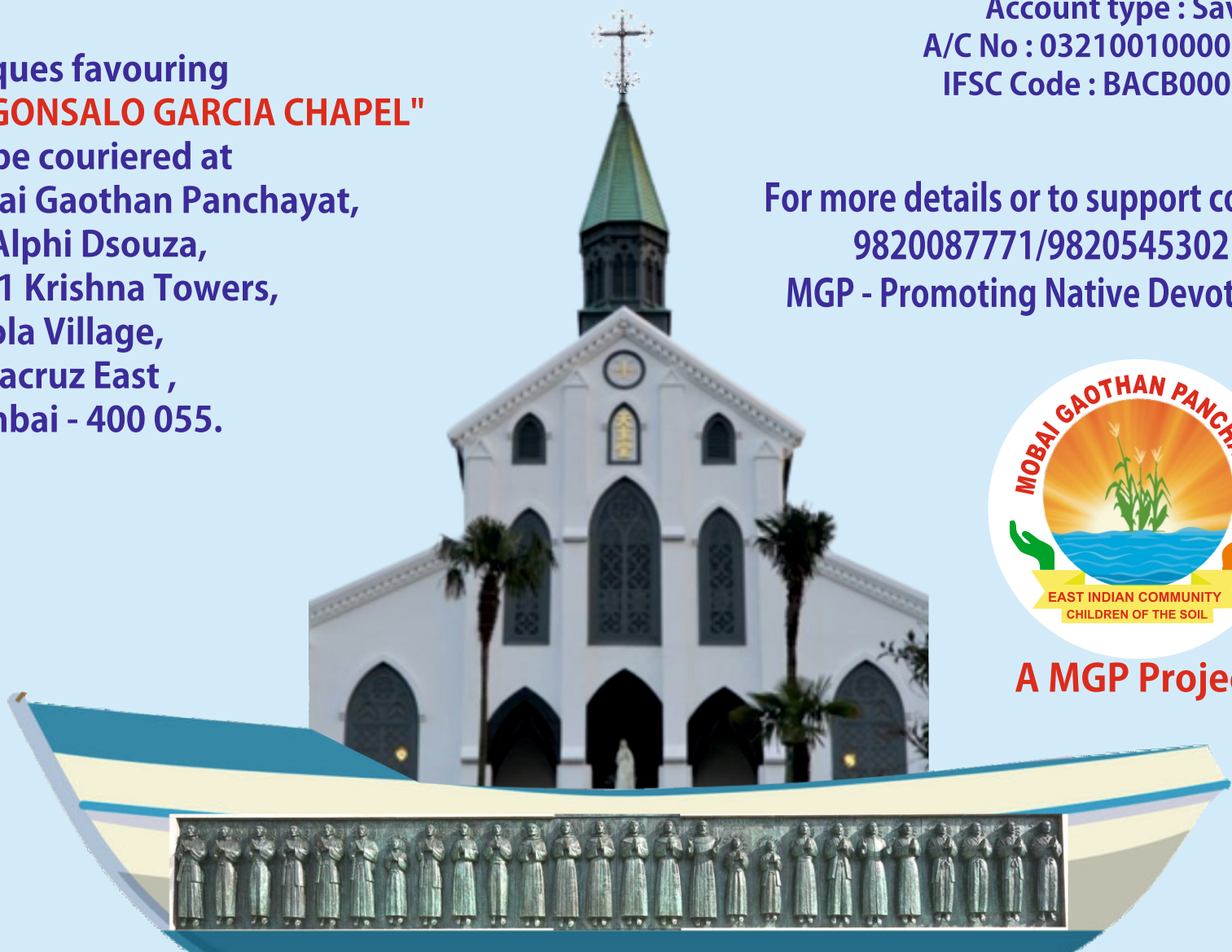
For more details or to support contact

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MGP - Promoting Native Devotions

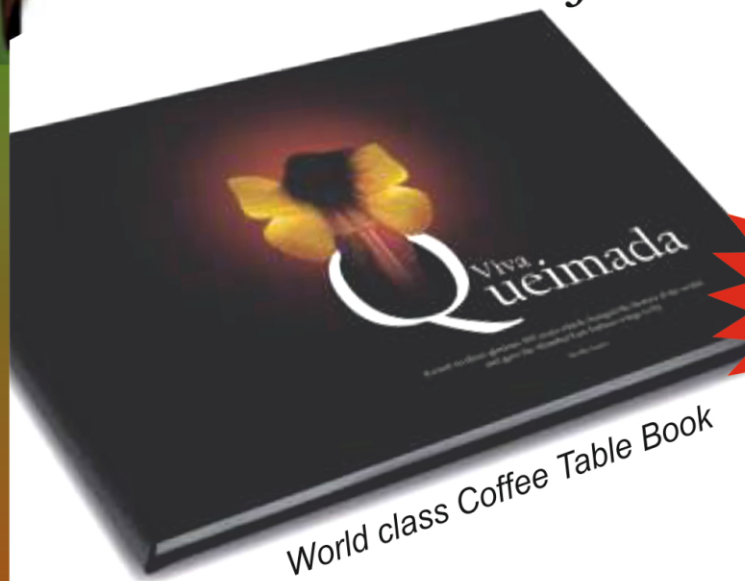


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GAOTHAN VOICE - ADVERTISEMENT RATES

Advertisement Type	Single Issue	3 Months (Adv. rate per issue)	6 Months (Adv. rate per issue)	12 Months (Adv. rate per issue)
	₹	₹	₹	₹
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	5700 (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**

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