

THE SECULAR CITIZEN

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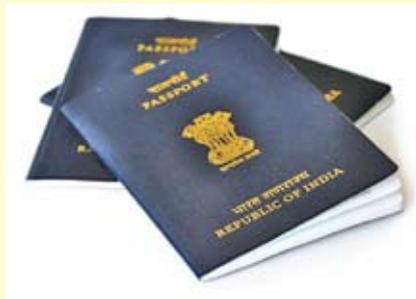
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Indians sternly warned to stay away from Yemen



New Delhi: The Indian government has asked its nationals to avoid traveling to Yemen in “any circumstances, by any means, for any purpose.”

The April 1 stern advisory from the External Affairs Ministry came after Islamic terrorists killed an Indian Catholic nun and abducted a priest in Aden, Yemen’s southern port city.

The advisory asserts that the security situation in Yemen continues to remain fragile, “In light of the recent terrorist attacks in Aden, which resulted in killing of an Indian nun and abduction of one priest, Indian nationals are again strongly advised to avoid travelling to Yemen under any circumstances by any means for any purpose till further notice.”

The ministry also said that it had already issued number of travel advisories asking Indian nationals to refrain from traveling to Yemen in view of the precarious security situation in the country, the Press Trust of India reported.

Fr Tom Uzhunnalil, a Salesian priest from Kerala, was abducted by after the Islamic State militant group, which attacked a care home run by Mother Teresa’s Missionaries of Charity in Aden.

Gunmen had stormed the refuge for the elderly on March 4 and killed a Yemeni guard before tying up and shooting 15 other employees, including four nuns.

Uganda Church bans shouting, rolling during charismatic prayers

Rome: The Catholic Church in Uganda has banned unbridled emotional outbursts during charismatic prayer meetings.

A set of guidelines issued by the Uganda Episcopal Conference stipulates also bans the use of holy oils by lay people.

The new rules insist that charismatic prayers should be held only at places approved by the local bishop.

Archbishop Cyprian Kizito Lwanga of Kampala announced the guidelines during Chrism Mass, Vatican Radio reported quoting the “New Vision,” a daily newspaper in Uganda.

The new guidelines aim to check controversies associated with the Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement in the country.

The 63-year-old prelate clarified that the local bishop has the pastoral responsibility to ensure that whatever happens within his diocesan area is in conformity with Catholic traditional practice, doctrine of the Church and Canon Law. He also stressed the need to protect the vulnerable lay faithful from self-styled preachers.

Hence only a priest or deacon can conduct charismatic prayers, and no one else.

The guidelines say only ordained priests have the authority to administer holy oils. Archbishop Lwanga said not everyone can bless or sell Holy Oils.

According to Church teaching, the oils blessed at Chrism Mass are of three kinds: the Oil of Catechumens, Chrism and the Oil of the Sick. Each of these is oil extracted from olives. Chrism Oil is distinguished from the others by having balm or balsam mixed with it. The oils can only be



blessed by bishop with a particular form of prayer, expressing the purpose for which it is to be used, during Chrism Mass each year.

Catholic Charismatic Renewal is a spiritual movement that incorporates aspects of both Catholic and charismatic practice. It places an emphasis on having a personal relationship with Jesus and expressing the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Several Popes, starting with Pope Paul VI have recognized the importance and significance of the movement within the Church.

According to the archbishop, the Church will not allow falling, rolling on the ground, or shouting during charismatic prayers. He also clarified that it was the bishop’s responsibility to choose exorcists.

In the Catholic Church, only an exorcist officially appointed by the bishop can perform exorcisms. Kampala archdiocese also announced the names of four priests as the official exorcists.

Charismatic preachers who want to use the media will now be required to seek the approval of their bishop. The Kampala archbishop also said charismatic activities in any place require prior permission of the local parish priests.

Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Michael Blume also attended the Chrism Mass.

'Thought for the week'

A wise soul opens the window to the future by closing the doors to the past.

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CBCI Centre Updates on Fr. Tom

In an earnest effort to intensify the efforts to free Fr. Tom from the abductors, Mr. Rajiv Topno, IAS, P.S. to Prime Minister, visited CBCI Centre yesterday morning and held extensive discussion with me. Mr. Rajiv Topno explained the various initiatives undertaken by the Central Government to trace the whereabouts of Fr. Tom and to ensure his early release. He also sought some clarification on the efforts of the Holy See to save the life of the abducted Salesian Priest.

The recent bomb blast in Lahore on Easter Sunday that killed 75 people and injured almost 300 people also came up for discussion. The meeting with the P.S. to Prime Minister lasted almost 45 minutes.

In a couple of days, the CBCI delegation will be meeting Smt. Sushma Swaraj, the Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs, and Mr. Ram Madhav, the B.J.P. General Secretary from R.S.S. Headquarters, Nagpur, who is an expert in bilateral diplomatic relations, to discuss all aspects, connected with the safe release of Fr. Tom. I shall keep you updated immediately after these due meetings.

Meanwhile let our fervent prayers rise up to the throne of Our Loving Father through the powerful intercession of Our Blessed Mother for the safe release of our dear Fr. Tom.

*Msgr. Joseph Chinnayyan,
Deputy Secretary General, CBCI*

Father Tom Uzhunnalil was captured from the southern Yemeni city of Aden by gunmen who killed at least 15 people at an old people's home in an attack that was condemned by Pope Francis.

According to CBCI, a delegation met Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj "She has assured us Father Tom is safe and negotiations are on for his release which could happen very soon," said Father Joseph Chinnaiyan, deputy secretary of the CBCI.

Media reports last week said the priest was killed by Islamic State militants on Good Friday, although no one has claimed responsibility for last month's attack in which gunmen killed four Indian nuns, two Yemeni female staff members, eight elderly residents and a guard. Father Chinnaiyan said the reports were inaccurate.

Aden has been racked by lawlessness since Hadi supporters, backed by Gulf Arab military forces, drove fighters of the Iran-allied Houthi group from the city in July last year.

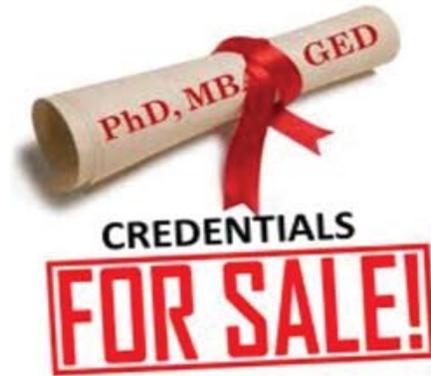
International aid groups have pulled most of their foreign staff from Yemen due to security concerns.

Education for Sale

by George D'Souza

Once again the greed has raised its ugly head in the II PU Karnataka examinations. Repeated paper leaks (Chemistry) shows the kind of sickness in the rotten system. The trauma of students and parents and so much of prayers and rituals went down the drain. Even Gods; to whom we revere and believe have no power over our corrupt and inept people in authority. The scourge of evils- like greed, divisiveness, and craze for money have blinded our vision and systematically undermined the true value of education. The cup of poison is shared by so many in the hierarchy, that when someone tries to stop it, he will be silenced without a trace. This way, they know that they can get away with their crimes. And who suffers? Students and parents. The repeated paper leaks and thoughtless way of setting question papers, have made no difference to the justice system in containing it. For now; Education is for sale! If we look at the kind of absurd lessons (in some text books) we teach to our future young minds, one will hang his head in shame. And still we want fame with shame. Cowardice at its nadir.

There are many reasons for such a mess in the educational system. Primarily, the system itself is infested with people with dirty mind set at various levels of authority. Decades back when coaching classes were not existing, all institutions would accept students without great criteria of merit. Students then were less burdened and no stress of paper leaks. With parents pushing students for higher marks and the mushrooming of private coaching classes made education as a business trade. These private classes go to any length and cut corners to get permission to run their business in cramped classrooms, without basic facilities. They lure teaching faculty from good colleges with fat pay packages, while charging students with exorbitant fees.



Secondly, the fault lies with the parents, who pressurise their children to achieve only marks on a sheet of paper, constantly directing them toward a career of money making. We never allow them to mature in other aspects of life where a child may excel in something, naturally on his own. This attitude has created a right environment for exploitation as more and more parents ready to pump up exorbitant amount to admit their child. We do not teach them to stand up for truth and do not give an ear to their complaints. That is why today's children cannot put up a fight together against injustice. We segregate our children through attires, religion and caste and community, which is against the universal human spirit of humanity. These are the seeds that grow into hateful prejudices later we and our children reap as consequences of our actions.

Thirdly, the society itself to blame as a larger way for the mess we are in today. We are so much obsessed with religious rituals and festivals and spend staggering amounts of money and time giving least importance to areas of human development. Honestly, these activities have not improved our way of living and thinking but caused more misery. The people responsible for corruption and paper leak or anything, go to the worship places and bow before deities. You may find them next to you. What goes into your mind? In such cases an atheist may do a better job because, at least he will not betray God. So, what's the point of our belief system? Humans have overtaken Gods?

Other reason can be that people have no social activism. When something happens to others, we give indifferent look. But when it happens to us we wake up. Sadly, if we show empathy and give no helping hand, even though the issue is not related to us, someday we may not get help. Unless people come out on the streets and unite for a cause, nothing happens. We provide the breeding ground for greedy politicians to divide us through factionalism, religion, caste, color and political affiliation. We can never have unity, when it calls for. So where are our elected representatives now? Why there is no noise or comments from them? Why are they not listening to our plight? They will not; for they know, that we can do nothing. Because, we fall over each other lobbying those are in power and do our jobs through their influence, forgetting they are public servants. We seldom make them accountable for their actions. . There is a kind of fear psychosis among the people who refuse to speak against the injustice. Why?

We fought for freedom and chased the British out of our country but conveniently ignored to fight against the scoundrels and looters within us. We took the pride to our head and went into hibernation, neglecting our duty as a citizen. We have people managing affairs without proper qualifications.

So what can bring change to this rotten system? There are no quick fix solutions. We need to show a strong will of integrity and love for the country, its people; like a soldier who lays down his life for his motherland. When we live and work with such conscience, things will change and there will be no space for crises. This will take quite long time but something has to start. Our will and desire to abide and not to give in for selfish gains but work toward transparency. Accepting the faults with wisdom and application of swift justice will instill the fear of the law to free the education system from this malady.



Make Gestures Of Brotherhood...

On 24 March 2016, Holy Thursday, Pope Francis celebrated 'Missa in Coena Domini' – Mass of the Lord's Supper, at the Hospitality Centre operated by the 'Auxillium Cooperative, which provides lodging and services to 892 asylum seekers from 25 countries.

The Pope led the Church into the great three day liturgical Triduum which culminates in the Majestic Easter Vigil. Gestures speak louder than pictures and words. In the Word of God, we read of two gestures:

1. Jesus serving, washing feet:

He Who is the "Head-Man", washed the feet of even the least. All of us together, Muslims, Hindus, Catholics, Copts, and our Evangelical brothers and sisters, children of the same God our Father, we want to live in peace and fraternity.

Today, you, we, of different religions and cultures, when I do this same act of Jesus by washing the feet of twelve of you, let us make gestures of brotherhood! Each of us has a story, many crosses, many sorrows; but also an open heart that wants brotherhood! May this brotherhood be contagious in the world ...

2. Greed of Judas Iscariot:

This second gesture of Judas who goes to the enemies of Jesus, those who do not want peace with Jesus, betrays our Lord for 30 pieces of silver. Like Judas they sow discord for monetary gain, and trade in arms by selling the tools of bloodshed for profit. Behind this tragic gesture are also weapon manufacturers who want blood not peace, war not fraternity... But I say, "Let us maintain brotherhood" (cf. Hebrews 13:1).

—*Dr. Trevor Colaso, Bandra (West), Mumbai 400 050,*

Stop breaking backs!

A growing number of children are developing irreversible back deformities because of the weight of the bags they carry to school. Half of all children suffer back pain by the age of 14 and doctors are reporting a rise in cases of spinal abnormalities in pupils, including disfiguring curvatures known as scoliosis. Overloaded school bags that are up to double the size of those carried ten years ago are contributing to the surge, it is feared. Pupils routinely carry bags filled with heavy books, laptops, sports kit and packed lunches, which may weigh as much as 20 kilograms. Despite the Children's Schoolbag Act enacted in 2006 which states that the school bag should not weigh more 10 per cent of the body weight of the student, many students regularly attend school with heavy bags.

The heavy school bag which school children carry daily on their delicate shoulders puts extreme pressure on their spines and causes them severe backache and posture problems at a very young age. Children gradually lose interest in going to school due to the stress of carrying a heavy bag and their attention span also reduces. The state government had set up a committee which made 44 recommendations on how to reduce the weight of school bags and on the maximum weight limit. These were put up on the state department's website for suggestions from the public. As textbooks constitutes a major proportion of the weight of the bag and the teacher teaches only a part of the text book (few pages) in a month, the publishers could separate the big textbook into different thin booklets, which will make the load of children

carrying these books lighter. Schools could also provide lockers where the students could keep their books and thus need not carry a heavy load daily.

Students could also organize their bags daily and carry only books which are needed for the day. Let us hope the new education policy makes the school bags of children lighter. Education today is a prerequisite to the success, development and bright future of an individual and for the progress of a nation. Education means knowledge and knowledge is power. Education has transformed human lives beyond imagination and has opened the doors to career opportunities across the world. It is therefore the key to stability, prosperity, for having productive life-style and is the gateway to success.

— *Jubel D'Cruz, Dombivili*

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Who is 'Antinational'?

According to a recent report, 'New World Wealth' (PTI, March 20, 2016), India has witnessed the "forth biggest outflow" of nearly 4,000 High-Net-Worth-Individuals (HNWI) in 2015 and prior. These are uber-rich Indians whose net assets exceed \$ one million.

Now Finance minister Arun Jaitley recently revealed the names of India's top 67 tax evaders (2015). Gujarat with 24 tops the list. These 24 individuals and entities have not paid tax to the tune of 577 crores in spite of repeated reminders.

But I ask, what about the rampant corruption in government organizations; hoarding and black-marketing of essential commodities; the declining female sex ratios; persecution of Christians using the draconian 'Anti-Conversion Laws; atrocities against women, Dalits and minorities; and the denial of constitutional rights for SC/ST Christians and Muslims?

All these above acts constitute "Anti-National Activities"! And not the alleged 'conversions' by Christians missionaries and their charitable institutions; who are rendering yeoman and selfless services to starving, illiterate and discriminated tribals and other backward castes, who are deprived of a decent standard of living, and suppressed of their human rights and dignity!

"Catholic Social Teaching demands that justice requires that economic choices do not cause disparities in wealth to increase in an excessively and morally unacceptable manner" (Caritas in Veritate: #32)- Remember, the 'Good Samaritan' recognized the dignity of the fallen one, and cared for his wellbeing. So Jesus ordered: "Go and do likewise" (Luke 10:37).

—Dr. Trevor Colaso,
Bandra (West), Mumbai

Mother Angelica

by Peter Castellino

There are many interesting facts about Mother Angelica—she grew up impoverished during the Great Depression and her real name was Rita Antoinette Rizzo and she was the only child of John and Mae Helen Rizzo-nee Geofrancesco—her father was a tailor of Italian descent and at the age of 5 in 1929 her parents were divorced and just like her family was poor, hungry and barely surviving on odd jobs and her mother at first did odd jobs on which she barely survived and later did a dry cleaning business as an apprentice to a Jewish tailor in her area and she pinched pennies for food on the table but by 16 she found her mother's job useless and through her efforts her mother got a better job and relief from dire poverty and her early childhood was filled with turmoil at every corner and plagued by illnesses and self doubt and then she experienced a miraculous healing in 1943 that drew her to the cloistered life at 21 as a Franciscan nun.

She attended Canton McKinley High School and was the school's first drum majorette.

In 1946 as a young nun sister she had an accident with an industrial waxing machine that knocked her over and resulted in an injured spine and she had to wear braces throughout her life.

As a nun she love that would forever alter her life and the lives of many people across the globe.

In 1981 she started broadcasting religious programmes from a converted garage in Birmingham, Alabama and her first programme was Mother Angelica Live on Tuesday and Wednesday nights and over the next 20 years she developed a media network of radio, TV internet channels and print media.

She hosted shows on ETWN- Eternal world television till 2001 and her radio network was called WEWN.

Bedridden for months she was placed



on a feeding tube as her health slowly declined fellow nuns said in an announcement released in November 2015 and in Uvistered monastrey in Hansville she died at 92 on March 27, 2016, Easter Sunday.

She received the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice from Pope Benedict XVI in 2009 for her services to the church.

Archbishop Kurtz praised her role in founding ETWN, Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, the Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal World, Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament and the Knights of the Holy Eucharist.

Her critics of the 1980's and 90's called her a crude popularizer, an arch conservative and a crude warrior but her greatest gift was the strong reverence for the Lord of the Holy Eucharist and devotion to the Blessed Mother according to Bishop Robert Barron an auxiliary bishop of Los Angeles on March 28, 2016.

He said that she was far from perfect—her comments were insufficiently nuanced and balanced and her hot temper made her characterize her opponents unfairly.

He also said that she endured tremendous suffering both physical and psychological most of her life and she appreciated these trials as opportunities for spiritual growth.

Thus we see the importance of Mother Angelica who evangelised for fifty years and could in the future be canonized as a saint and we should be inspired by her life to carry out her good work.

Everyday In Turkey And Syria

by Sayoni Biswas

For the layman, the situation in Turkey might seem to be a political disarray, but it is somewhat more complicated than that. Turkey boasts a rich history and is one of the most developed nations of West Asia, but of late war is brewing within its perimeters. Syria has been at war since 2013 but now with the pro and anti-Assad forces and the rise of the extremist Islamic State (ISIS), violence and civilian strife are at an all time high. The issue, therefore, is a humanitarian one.

With the rising refugee crisis spilling into Europe, Turkey serves as the central connecting land for the migrating millions. The economy has deteriorated, and Russia has now imposed sanctions on Turkey. But how did Russia get involved in this situation all of a sudden?

We know that the USA has been a part of the program for the annihilation of ISIS. So how are the super powers cooperating and acting in this situation? The UN Security Council is now being called upon to look issues concerning major humanitarian crisis. Turkey sharing a common border with Syria is at the receiving end of crossfire from four major factions – USA, Russia, The European Union and NATO. The question of the hour is: how to deal with the persistent refugee problem, restore peace and save the gradually sinking economy.

One must analyse the roles of the different power groups to see what the present state of politics is in the region.

We have to understand the situation

in Turkey with respect to Syria, since the two share a common border and are exposed to civilian strife and war among various pro and anti-Assad factions on a continuing basis. Turkey is petrified of the Syrian Kurds or the Kurdish fighters (also known as the PKK or YGB). Though earlier termed as a terrorist organization, the Kurdish fighters changed their stance to become 'freedom fighters' by extermi-



nating the ISIS and protecting the oil mines for the United States thus becoming an ally of the Western Super Power. However, this is not what the Turks perceive. Instead, they see the PKK as a looming threat approaching to take over their territory. With Turkey fighting the PKK, continuous shelling, and ground war is a harsh reality for the country currently.

Meanwhile, Turkey is under pressure from the European Union to stem the flow of the refugees. The complexity of the situation is such that while Turkey is supporting the rebels to bring down the Syrian president, Russia, on the other hand, stands by Bashar-Al-Assad and his troupes. In fact, Russia has even joined hands with the Syrian Kurds to get even with Turkey.

But Why And How Did Russia Get Involved In This War?

In November 2015, Turkey shot down a Russian warplane, further adding to its woes by angering Putin. State premieres Erdogan and Putin, of Turkey and Russia respectively, might have shared a cordial relation before, but this incident turned the relationship sour almost instantly. Putin wanted Erdogan to repent publicly and apologise for this incident, but that did not happen.

While such high voltage drama unfolded with Russia, two deadly twin blasts had wrecked inhuman havoc killing more than 100 and injuring many others in Ankara. The attacks were allegedly carried out by the Syrian Kurds though they never took responsibility for the incident. Following this Russia banned tourism and imposed sanctions on economic dealings with Turkey leading to a downward spiral for the Turkish economy. Moreover, this time, Turkey can be said to be on its own, with even NATO refusing to help in case the war escalates or Moscow attacks Ankara.

The way Putin has intervened in the Syrian crisis can be said to be "geopolitical buccaneering" (something quite similar to what he did in Georgia and Crimea.)

At the end of the day, one wants peace and free elections in the region. America and the world want the end of groups like ISIS and Al Nusra Front. If this happens, one might even witness Bashar-Al-Assad continue through the transitional period. But Putin's plans might have to wait as Erdogan is equally ruthless and choleric. If the two premieres settle their differences by goodwill, then peace might be restored to the region.

How Is The United States Involved In This Matter?

Initially, Turkey was reluctant to help America launch an attack against

(Contd.. on p. 8)

(Contd.. from p. 7)

Syria, thus mutually reaching an understanding with the USA to create an ISIS-Kurdish free zone on the Turkish border. However when Turkey attacked Syria intending to take on the ISIS, the PKK (Kurdistan Workers Party) got involved. Being the greatest allies of America, PKK has a huge stake in controlling the Islamic state and, unfortunately, the United States did not take Turkey's attack on their allies kindly.

Sharif Nashashibi's article in Aljazeera says that Kurds might be both the pawns and kings in this war. They have both territorial gain and weaponry access. At the same time, they enjoy the support of the super powers. While so far the Syrian Kurds had been fighting the Islamic State, now they are making territorial advances towards Turkey. This situation has understandably angered Turkey causing tensions between them and the USA. There is a clash of interests that could lead to a significant conflict in the days to come.

What About NATO And Other European Countries?

A woman reacts as she stands in front of her house, which was damaged during the security operations and clashes between Turkish security forces and Kurdish militants, in the southeastern town of Idil, Turkey, March 31, 2016. REUTERS/Sertac Kayar - RTSCZOS

REUTERS/Sertac Kayar

The situation is complex. NATO has to make sure that it stands behind its member states while avoiding any conflict with Russia. Turkey can ask for help from NATO invoking clauses 4 and 5, but NATO has made it clear that it does not want to get involved in this matter. Turkish and Russian forces have been fighting on the Turkish-Syrian border for quite some time now, and the situation seems volatile. Meanwhile, Turkey is still negotiating on the idea of sending ground troops to Syria to cut off the Syrian Kurds completely, but according to German Chancellor Angela Merkel, this would be like giving Putin an open invitation to join the war and bring their forces to the fore.

In a way, Putin is attempting to host a hybrid war whereby he will be able to destabilise NATO as an organization which has no power over its member states. Putin is trying to divide further Europe by supporting the Syrian refugee crisis and trying to escalate refugee problems in Turkey. While Germany needs cooperation to handle the refugee crisis along with Turkey, it is, on the one hand, failing to give any assurance to Ankara. It's a situation of jeopardy.

In Conclusion

The situation in Syria and Turkey is quite vulnerable. While Turkey is continuing to attack Syrian Kurds, Russia is also planning to take concrete steps to launch shelling on Turkey despite the peace deal between USA and Russia. Turkey meanwhile continues to shell the Syrian territory. The

UN Security Council is not being summoned to protect the Syrian civilians. But as reports from Azaz confirm (the ground zero in Syria's civil war – a border town) the shelling hasn't stopped. Turkey is also not happy with the USA's role in this region. According to Turkey, USA has only enabled Russia. So Turkey is unhappy with the USA and the Russian role.

Meanwhile, from a humanitarian point of view, the civil war has escalated. The number of killings has increased with the given time. People are living in acute misery and poverty. The United Nations Security Council should look into this matter and impose some sanctions on all the warring nations. Provisions for a peace accord between the states are necessary so that these killings can stop. The recent attack in Ankara which has killed around 30 people and injured more than 150 people, speaks of the great divide between the Kurds and the Turkey government. In the meanwhile, Turkey is demanding financial aid from NATO, since it has already spent 10 billion dollars on solving the refugee crisis. Erdogan's authoritarian rule is also not going down well with the people since the rights of free media has been curtailed. The United States and NATO are somewhat overlooking this step that has been taken by Erdogan and are being criticised by the local Turkish media for doing nothing.

The world is now looking at these countries with bated breath to see how far the warring factions go and how soon peace can be restored to this region.

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What Saved a Wretch like Me!

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound! The melodious rendition of this hymn at the last funeral I attended left me with a dull ache in my heart and many thoughts in my mind. And then the Novena to Divine Mercy came along, coaxing a contemplation of the words of the hymn, driving home the point that not only the dead but also the living need to see the Lord standing there with his arms open wide..... not as a judge but as a merciful Saviour!

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.
This is the Amazing Grace in my
life.....*

It was the seventh day of the Divine Mercy Novena, the day we heard Jesus say, "Today, bring to me the souls who especially venerate and glorify my mercy". Darkness had covered the earth when I stepped out of the church, only to be greeted by a youthful voice from behind calling out, "Teacher... teacher....," Though the voice was unfamiliar, I stopped in my tracks and turned around. The youth who stood there with a broad smile lighting up his face asked with a warm familiarity, "Teacher, are you not Gwen's mother.... I think you taught me..."

It was difficult to brush off such a disarming smile and the naive greeting. I smiled and put him at ease with polite words, ready to wind up the conversation and rush home. But he persisted, not being Gwen's mother did not disqualify me from being a candidate to be his confidante.... I was a teacher and had substituted in his school, according to his excellent memory. And now he needed me to fill a particular role in his life, a role that was vacant!

To cut a long story short, Viren, as he was called, needed a listening ear to his story of how 'amazing grace' had restored his inner sight and "released all my fears"! Pampered as the only

child of rich doting parents, he had strayed away from the church into drugs, drinks and all that accompanies this decadent lifestyle. He turned into a prodigal son and suffered... But the Lord who had left the ninety-nine sheep and had gone behind this wounded lamb had found him and brought him back. And on the fifth day of the Divine Mercy Novena one year he had strayed into a church.... it was the parable of the lost son combined with the hymn sung during the Novena that had touched his conscience and tugged at his heart-strings!

This is the story of 'Amazing Grace'...

The time was when that classic, Uncle Tom's Cabin, which detailed the struggles of African slaves who lived as human wretches under their cruel masters, used to move us to tears. Harriet Beecher Stowe, the author has quoted three stanzas as seemingly from this hymn, two of them corrupt versions of Amazing Grace stanzas, and one of them reads-

*When we've been there ten thousand
years,
Bright shining like the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's
praise
Than when we first began.*

The words not only echo the sufferings and abuses heaped on humans, but also reflect the aimless wanderings of souls that have been blind to the truth. The sad lyrics originated from the inhuman experiences of one man who managed to see the light and turn to God to live a life of contentment and peace. The words are a spontaneous confession of that man who found the Lord standing with His arms open wide to welcome him back.....

"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound..." So begins one of the most beloved hymns of all times, a staple

in the hymnals of many denominations. The author of the words was John Newton, the self-proclaimed wretch who once was lost but then was found, saved by amazing grace. How amazing? Read the story.....

Newton was born in London 1725, the son of a commander of a merchant ship which sailed the Mediterranean. When John was eleven, he went to sea with his father and made six voyages with him before the elder Newton retired. Some versions of this story state that the differences of opinion between father and son prompted the younger man to leave his father's ship and take up on his own.



by Vera Alvares

However, in 1744 John was pressed into service on a man-of-war, the H. M. S. Harwich where he found the conditions so deplorable that he deserted the ship. His wretched experiences began when they recaptured him and subjected him to public flogging and demotion in his rank.

Finally at his own request he was exchanged into service on a slave ship, which took him to Africa where circumstances made him the servant of a slave trader and he was brutally abused. The flogging and the abuse transformed him into a human wreck, desperate and weak. Early in 1748 he was rescued by a sea captain who had known John's father. John Newton ultimately became captain of his own ship, one which plied the slave trade.

Although he had had some early religious instruction from his mother, who had died when he was a child, he had long since given up any religious convictions. However, on a homeward voyage, while he was attempting to steer the ship through a violent storm, he experienced what he was to refer to later as his "great

(Contd.. on p. 18)

WHATSAPP chat turned suicidal...!!!!

The fast moving world has changed a lot. The teenagers and the young adults are with all kinds of modern gadgets. And there is no one to control or scrutinize their behaviors or to check to whom they are chatting for a long time or what they watch in the internet. Because the parents are busy in the rat race making luxury convenience for their wards. Here I have an experience to share with you.

It was a Friday afternoon. I was as usual busy in the school office as the class X public exams was fast approaching. Suddenly my mobile rang usually I ignore any calls other than the office calls or calls from the educational department during the school hours. This call was from one of my former students hence without paying heed I continued with my work but the mobile kept on ringing and bothering me. Therefore I picked up the phone and responded in an annoyed tone.

But the other end I heard a distressed and disturbed voice so I changed my tone and asked what was wrong with him. He said that he was going to kill himself and wanted to talk to me for the last time in his life. He added that I might not see him or hear him if I had not gone then. I asked him what happened as I was confused because just the previous day only he came to me normal as he was and there was no mention of anything really wrong in his life. (This young man is working with one of the reputed industries in Vizag and talented in all the ways with an amazing capacity to manage everything)

Many of my former students used to come to me for guidance and counseling as they feel free to share their personal or family issues. Therefore I just wondered what was wrong with him at this moment. He went on in-



sisting me to come but I was clueless thinking what was wrong with him. He added saying 'I am dying if you didn't come now you will regret later'.



**Sr. Bindu
Abraham
MSI**

Although I was reluctant but with a second thought wanted to see him as was pestering, but my office staff prevented me from going. They said if anything really happened the public would hold you responsible of this and it might create complicated situation in future. So with an ambivalent mind I called one of his friends and asked him to go and see what was really happening. When his friend reached there the dejected youth had made deep gashes all over his body with blades and he was rolling over a pool of blood. His friend with the help of someone from the nearby shops tried to take him to hospital but he refused and went on hurting himself. He attempted to slit even his own throat but those young men threw away the blades.

This boy was in relationship with a girl on whatsapp. (This girl was already married and had a kid too). She told him she was doing graduation and wanted to marry him. This forlorn man believed all that she said and wasted all his money and time going behind her. (He bruised himself when the girl revealed the truth about her)

It's only an example. This is the kind

of world we are living in today. The youngsters with the technology at their finger touch want almost everything instantaneously. They cannot just take in the failure or dejection in their life. They are not prepared to face any consequences or even delay in getting the things. Many of the parents are petrified of their wards. They are scared to give them any corrections or even ask them about their friends or what they are doing. I know a class IX student brought pornographic materials to the class and distributed among his classmates. When he was care fronted by his mom he cut his veins with pocket knife.

I know a student of class VI tried to commit suicide when she was denied birthday dress because the parents couldn't afford it. They have the tendency to compare with their peers and always a tug of war in the families. Most of them are not willing to listen or not willing to share what they have with others or not even trying to comprehend the situation they are in.

Later on the young man was taken to a counseling centre and was given proper guidance but as the days went on he began to drink and became a drug addict. He even lost his job. Now he is in a rehabilitation centre but waiting for an opportune to kill himself. He says no one can change me unless I change myself. It's TRUE they must begin to realize the grave situation and the commitments they have towards the family and society.

I just wonder at the way the youngsters are capable of doing things anything under the sun is available at their finger prints.

Dear parents do watch your teenagers and young adults not like police personnel but with love, care and understanding. They expect all these from you as a parent. Be a friend to them, win their confidence. Surely your growing children will open up themselves you.

Identify and conquer your enemies

Enemies don't always come in human form. But we pick them up, nurture them and sometimes they stay with us forever, slowly draining away our happiness, sense of worth and even our professional success. Once we do identify them, we can take steps to get rid of them. Check if any of these symptoms are lurking around you

Sometimes the real enemy is not who you think and not so easy to identify. The biggest enemies we face may not be others, but internal enemies such as fear, impatience, greed, laziness and distraction. Your unidentified and unseen enemies could derail your progress and inhibit the ability to seize victory. The final step: a rock solid plan to overcome. Enemies generally fall into the following categories

If there is a leak in your roof, you can choose to ignore it. But every time it rains, the leak will get worse and damage more plywood and support beams. And so it is with life's important problems/issues. They are not going away, and the earlier you deal with them, the less you will have to deal with. When you continue to ignore issues that should be dealt with, you become resentful, irritable and angry - not good emotion and feeling to have! But when you deal with them and resolve them, you get a sense of relief, comfort and peace.

Workaholism

It's so easy to justify eight hour work per day and working weekends. All of these tasks and projects-no one else can get them completed and it just has to be up to you! Here's what psychologists say about workaholics-they are compensating for lacks in other parts of their lives. So, if you are a workaholic, you have to identify that first and

then you have to identify what you lack in other parts of your life. To learn that life outside of work is not an unpleasant or scary place!

Envy

Envy, while we often don't realise, leads to resentment and dis-satisfaction that masks all of the great things about our own lives. This is a difficult enemy to transform but you can do it. Begin with making a list of all that you have to be



grateful for. Place signs with the word 'gratitude' in easily seen places around your home-on the mirror in your bedroom, on your refrigerator - you need to remind yourself on a daily basis that you have many things that inspire gratitude. The more you focus on these, the less you will

focus on what others have.

Insecurity

Do you need to be in control? Do you bully others? Do you deflect compliments? Are you a people pleaser, always saying 'yes' when you really want to say 'no'? Do you get defensive when others provide constructive criticism or suggest that you could do something differently? These are all signs of insecurity. Insecurity is a deep-seated enemy, and 'he' is hard to transform. You begin by embracing and accepting it. By holding this enemy very close; you can see the behaviours that are resulting from it and you can the reverse those behaviours as they 'rear up,' one by one. Those are how the habits of insecurity get changed. You are a unique person with wonderful qualities-start living those!

Intolerance

This is an 'enemy' that most people with it fail to identify. We consider ourselves to have strong opinions about things and most often we tell ourselves that these are based upon our basic principles and values. But when we use those

You can be your enemy if

- You tend to think in extreme
- You jump to conclusions
- You don't measure up to your own standards
- You take responsibility for things you don't control
- You reject the positives or diminish their importance
- After one bad experience you expect this to repeat over and over again.

'strong opinions' to be judgemental of others in negative ways, we become intolerant and intolerance can then make us rigid, unforgiving and unwilling to accept change. Tolerance must be practiced on a daily basis, and it makes us so much easier for others to be around!

Impatience

Many are able to identify this enemy and its consequences but embracing it and then changing it-well - that is quite another matter. We all have a tendency to want what we want right now. And when we don't get that, we become frustrated, angry, and often unhappy. When people are impatient about the 'things' they want, they go into debt to get them; when they want more rapid career advancement, they become more aggressive and perhaps make enemies along the way. Getting rid of this enemy depends upon how it manifests. Patience is a habit that is built over time, so be patient about it!

Insensitivity

This enemy is tricky because so often we have no idea that we exhibit insensitivity to others. We are simply used to "telling it like it is," to verbalising every thought that comes into our heads and we rarely stop to consider whether what we do or say injures others. Sometimes, another person will tell you that you have been insensitive. Rather than get all defensive, make a note of it. Find something nice to say to everyone you encounter in the course of your day. Try it for a week and the ways in which others respond to you will begin to transform.

“Even basic moral values are not taken seriously” says reputed Moral Theologian

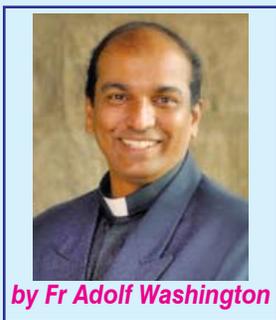
For 38 years since Professor Bernard Haering first came out with a three- volume ‘Free and Faithful in Christ’ there has been a visible vacuum as far as a complete, consistent, coherent and up-to-date presentation of Christian Moral Theology is concerned. A re-thinking and a re-presentation of it that was long overdue is met in Capuchin-priest Fr. Andrew Anil Sequeira’s latest 6-volume LIVING CHRISTIAN LIFE. (published by Claretian publications)



Fr. Anil Sequeira with Superior General Fr. Mauro Johri

The series addresses the present problems of scientific pre-occupation and post-modern human mentality and explains Conscience, Sin, Marriage, Sexual Morality and bio-medical moral problems in a way understandable to people of all Faiths.

In his response to a volley of questions, 72-year old Capuchin Priest, Fr. Andrew Anil Sequeira, ordained in 1972, a much loved formator, moral theologian, erudite scholar, multi-linguist and a soft-spoken gentleman tells Adolf Washington “The post-synodal exhortation on family, I would like, affirms clearly the nature of marriage, that it is a ‘sacred vocation’, a covenant and not a contract, a ‘sacrament’ understood of course rightly and not in the traditional sense of the word! It should underline why meaningful sexual activity is possible only within the scope of marriage”



by Fr Adolf Washington

1. You have been in the era of six popes and are professor of Moral Theology (MT) for 35 years. Pope Francis has been very explicit in asking the world not to ‘moralize’ too much. Do you choose to differ?

A lot of water, therefore, has flown under the bridge! There is a difference between ‘morality’ and ‘moralizing’; the former enables us to live our identity as moral persons; the latter is an exercise of preaching the rightness and wrongness of each and every human moral issue, even when unhelpful to living human life here and now.

2. Beyond your classroom lectures on MT do you think morality is an issue of concern among priests and religious given the mounting (and reported) scandals among priests and religious

The vacuum that I mentioned in the sphere of MT has persisted for too long Not a little uncertainty and inse-

curity have been created as a result, when it comes to live morality. Even the basic moral values like honesty, sincerity, truthfulness, altruism etc. are not taken seriously; if the priests and religious do not take them seriously, what can we expect from others? The reported scandals among them is truly tragic, since they are to lead others by example!! I am inclined to agree that the MT actually taught has something to do with it It should be known that morality is not something to be merely taught; it is to be lived.

3. Priests have been accused of pedophilia and other sex scandals. Do you see an anti-catholic propaganda in these allegations?

It is rather difficult to give an objective assessment regarding the extent of paedophilia among priests and religious going by the media reports. In some countries like the US of America (USA), there might be some anti-Catholic propaganda but I do not think it is there everywhere. The Media has a tendency to exaggerate things, and this case is not an excep-

(Contd.. on p. 13)

EXCERPTS FROM THE INTERVIEW

(Contd.. from p. 12)
tion.

4. No religion in the world is so 'bookish' on MT like Catholicism. Do we need a religion to establish the meaning of 'guilt'?

The statement, 'MT in Catholicism is 'bookish'', derives from the confusion that exists between 'morality' understood in the proper sense of the word and 'obedience to laws' insisted upon earlier. Experience of guilt is a universal human phenomenon; religion plays its part here only to some extent; much depends on actual socialization, formation and indoctrination of humans.

5. Isn't there a difference between 'FAITH' and 'RELIGION'?

There is a difference between the two, though they are intimately related.

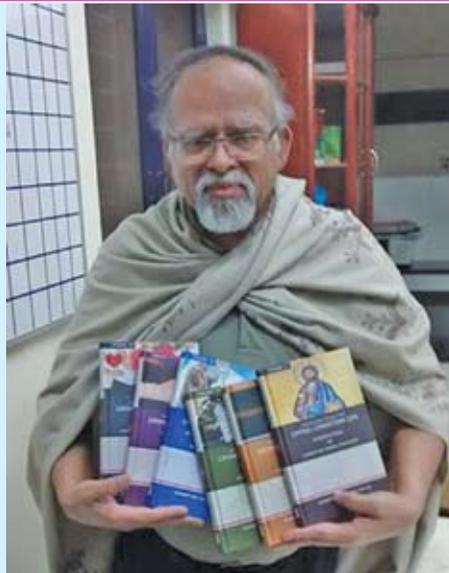
FAITH is a principle relationship. RELIGION is an 'organized effort on the part of humans to acknowledge and live the faith'; It takes into consideration in particular, the belief of life after death.

6. The global media is reporting a nonchalant response to Pope Francis' suggestion to include women in the 'foot-washing' ritual. (The Syro-Malabar church even pulled-up a priest for washing the feet of women saying they did not issue a dictat yet). Your comments.

Our society is to a great extent still 'sexist'! 'Washing of the feet' is a symbolical gesture indicating the 'service' to be rendered by Christians. Gender as such nothing to do with it. Service is to be rendered to all irrespective of class, caste, gender, status, etc.

7. The world is waiting for the October Synod on the Family. What pronouncements do you look forward to if you are not a priest and not a Moral Theologian?

The post-synodal exhortation on family, I would like, affirms clearly the na-



Fr. Anil Sequeira with his books

ture of marriage, that it is a 'sacred vocation', a covenant and not a contract, a 'sacrament' understood of course rightly and not in the traditional sense of the word! It should underline why meaningful sexual activity is possible only within the scope of marriage that is inherently destined to founding a family. It must also highlight the role of the married people in the matter of witnessing to the life of Jesus Christ.

8. Regardless of what the church dictates, people are going their way on co-habitation, same-sex marriages, spouse-swapping and still having the support of a largely secular-minded society. Would MT books be shelved into oblivion?

The specific issues of co-habitation, same-sex marriage etc. need some elaborate explanation. (I have done it in the book on Marriage). Humans can seek a life of fulfilment that accords fully with their nature and dignity, understood in a holistic sense. They can also seek some immediate, ephemeral and less than 'human' satisfaction of all the urges and emotions. The former is what we would like to encourage and the latter discourage. It is because the latter do not help us to be really 'humans' (exclaims).

9. You are an acclaimed professor and writer. 20 years down the line who would be your listeners and

readers?

Humans who would like to live a life of total personal fulfilment as 'human persons' would always be there to listen and read. If someone opts to do otherwise, the responsibility is his/hers. Ultimately we need to respect human freedom.

10. 'if the fear of hell doesn't change you, at least let the love of God change you' ..how do you understand this familiar echo?

This is a statement that describes morality in terms of reward and punishment! As such it makes sense only to children, not the adolescents and much less the adults! There is a need of out-growing this statement!! It should happen at least in the case of adults.

11. You have also been in seminary formation. From visible trends, many priests and religious turn out to become contrary to what they were in formation years. What's going wrong in the formation?

I think, there is an exigency of re-looking and overhauling the formation imparted in the seminaries! Formation has to be a matter of 'lived experience' and not merely giving information or an exercise of indoctrination. Above all, formation has to be 'on-going'; no one should think that with seminary formation, formation as such is in any way complete or done and over with.

12. If celibacy or virginity becomes optional, how would you see the future of the Catholic Church? Our history tells us that it was not a binding rule.

Celibacy or virginity is not a matter of law! Understanding it in this way is the real problem. Celibacy is a 'witnessing to the fullness of Jesus Christ'! There is a need to develop a right theology of celibacy or virginity even as that of marriage. They are the two

(Contd.. on p. 18)

Check, if your milk is safe to drink

Meet Avishek Barla, a 23-year-old student from IIT Madras, who has come up with innovative strip to check adulteration in milk

Do you consume milk that is 100 per cent pure? Chances are that you might be drinking milk, adulterated with glucose, urea, boric acid and even detergent. To ensure that you are drinking pure milk, Avishek Barla, a final year BTech student of Biotechnology at IIT Madras, has developed a cost-efficient device that could detect adulterants in milk in seconds. The device, known as a polymer chip, is a strip of paper made of re-agents.



According to Avishek, the strip has been divided into zones and can detect as many as four adulterants in a single test - glucose, urea, boric acid and detergent. He has been recently conferred with the Gandhian Young Technological Innovation award at New Delhi for his innovation. The 23-year-old wanted to develop something that could have a functional value for the common man, so he chose to work on this.

The paper strip can be bought at a nominal cost and will help distributors check the purity of the milk before buying it from farmers. One only needs to put a drop of the milk sample on the paper to get the results. If the paper changes colour, it indicates adulterants.

Avishek and his team have been able to detect four types of adulterants. But there are over 33 adulterants in milk, according to FSSAI. The team is working to detect the other adulterants also.

Stressed? Walk to boost your spirit



Coping with stress may come without a cost if you care to go out of your house and walk with others in the local natural environment, a study suggests.

Group nature walks are linked with significantly lower depression, less perceived stress and enhanced mental health and well-being, the findings showed. The researchers found that people who had recently experienced stressful life events like a serious illness, death of a loved one, marital separation or unemployment especially saw a mood boost after outdoor group walks. "Walking is an inexpensive, low-risk and accessible form of exercise and it turns out that combined with nature and group settings, it may be a very powerful, under-utilized stress buster," said senior study author Sara Warber, an associate professor at the University of Michigan in the US.

"Our findings suggest that something as simple as joining an outdoor walking group may not only improve someone's daily positive emotions but may also contribute as a non-pharmacological approach to serious conditions like depression," Warber added. For the study, the researchers evaluated 1,991 participants from the Walking for Health programme in Britain. Walking for health is England's national network of health walk schemes, offering free short walks over easy terrain led by trained walk leaders.

Smartphone may replace passports!



Forgot your passport on way to the airport? Relax as De La Rue, a Britain-based commercial banknote printer and passport manufacturer, is working on a technology that can store 'paperless passports' in smartphones. The technology would allow travellers to do without the booklets and switch to 'paperless passports' that would act similar to mobile boarding cards enabling tourist to travel through an airport without documents of any kind.

"Paperless passports are one of many initiatives that we are currently looking at but at the moment it is a concept that is at the very early stages of development," a spokesman of the company was quoted as saying. However, the potential for forgery, global barriers and the distinct possibility of losing one's smartphone mean the security challenges present big hurdles, the report added. The 'paperless passport' service is already under the testing mode.

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Prop. B. D'Souza

Women Of Weight, Wonder And Works

by Dr. Trevor Colaso

What has intrigued me, is that, at the foot of the Cross, along with the lone apostle St. John, there were three 'MARYS' – all responsible, restrained and resolute – Mary, the mother of our Lord and Savior; Mary, the wife of Cleopas; and Mary Magdalene. These three women – Blessed, benevolent and brave; Saint, supporter and sinner; rendered company, care and consolation to our dying, desolate yet dignified Jesus! I label these three 'Marys' as: (M)ajestic; (A)dmirable; (R)eliable; (Y)eilding. And to complete the acronym, for the (S), one can add (S)pirited.

We have just celebrated 'International Woman's Day' on March 8th, which was commemorated to highlight the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. However, urgent action is also needed to accelerate 'gender parity' in all spheres of life, especially for representation in parliament and other elected bodies. The just concluded theme for the International Woman's Day for 2016 was: "Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step it Up for Gender Equality"

Global Teacher Prize:

On Sunday evening, 13 March, 2016, Pope Francis through a video-message, announced the winner of the "Global Teacher Prize"; a \$ 1 million award presented by the 'Varkey Foundation Challenge Fund'. The Fund will support and finance early-stage educational initiatives to build the capacity of and for teachers; and thus strengthen the status of the teaching profession.

"I would like to congratulate the teacher, Hanan Al-Hroub, for winning this prestigious prize, due to the im-

portance she gives to the role of PLAY in a child's educative process", said Pope Francis. "A child has the right to 'play'; how to be social through games; how to learn the joys of life; and how a 'playful', patient approach can help mould students in conflict areas ... a population that is not well educated because of war, of by reasons that deprive them of extra-curricular activities, is a population that decays. This is why I would like to highlight the noble profession of a teacher."

Hanan Al-Hroub is a primary school teacher in the West Bank city of Al-Bireh, outside Ramallah. She grew up in a refugee camp, and now teaches refugees. She later told Associated Press, that it was "amazing" to hear the Pope utter her name; and revealed that she would donate the million-dollar prize money to create scholarships for students who excel, in order to encourage them to choose "careers in teaching"! During her acceptance speech she reiterated her commitment to non-violence and dialogue, a theme touched upon in the Pope's video message.

NDTV – L'Oreal's – "Women of Worth" Awards:

The awards were given on 28th March 2016 to eight women who shone and excelled in various fields. Among them were: Sreemayee Piu Kundu for Literature; Vani Kola for Entrepreneurship; Lalita Sripada for Innovation; Neha Kripal for Art; Pivilao Basumatary for Sport; Ajaita Shah for Environment; Suparna Gupta for Social Work; and Safeena Husain for Education.

The ceremony provided an evening for conquering stories, of walks down memory lanes, and journeys along unfamiliar roads.

"We started this programme in 2012,



as a platform to recognize women who have contributed selflessly', said L'Oreal's Manashi Guha, "Their success lay in making a difference to the lives of others through bravery, convictions and their drive." For example, Safeena Husain, Founder and CEO of the non-profit 'Educate Girls' said, "India has the highest number of child brides ... Besides, there was a lack of scalable solutions to girls' education. We require to highlight these anomalies ..."

Times Of India – "Global Steps":

The TOI supplement, 'Education Times', on March 21, 2016, at the 'Global Education & Skills Forum, 2016, hoisted by the Varkey Foundation, had Irena Bokova, director-general of UNESCO commenting: "Global research convincingly shows that girls' education, a right in itself, is the most powerful breakthrough strategy for unlocking progress across all development goals; from health to jobs, with positive repercussions across generations. We will expand media campaigns for girls' education to develop 'edutainment apps' and virtual reality contents that aim to further the advancement and empowerment of girls' education globally."

Tony Blair Faith Foundation:

Tony Blair, former British premier, and founder of the above said in a closing panel discussion: "Educating young people, particularly girls who will be future mothers and educators, on citizenship values is fundamen-

(Contd.. on p. 17)

An Ascot

An ascot, also called an 'ascot tie' is a kind of necktie that became popular in the late 19th



century. It still is in use today, principally in England, for formal and semi-formal dress occasions. It soon was an essential part of the formal attire known as 'morning dress', worn around the world by the very fashion-conscious. The ascot is shorter than a standard necktie, secured at the throat with a knot or pin, with wide ends that sometimes are secured under a jacket or shirt for formal occasions or left loose for casual wear. It usually is made of silk. Early versions were uniformly gray but since the ascot has come into casual use, it can be any colour.

What is a Pixel Test?

A pixel test is a test designed to evaluate computer monitor screens and high definition television (HDTV) screens for the



presence of pixel defects, such as dead or stuck pixels. Every computer screen or HDTV is comprised of many of these pixels, which can range in number from several thousand to many millions. Pixel tests can come in the form of a program a prerecorded set of images, a Web site or can even be the simple act of a person examining a screen closely for defects. Each pixel is capable of producing a different basic colour, such as red, green, blue, cyan, magenta and others. The pixels as a whole will produce the picture on the screen and a dead pixel will show up as a tiny black dot against a white background.

Knowledge



Page

What is Booster bag?

A booster bag is a bag which has been designed to conceal stolen merchandise. There are a number of creative variations on this bag all of which are designed to make thieves difficult to identify and track and in many stores, patrons are required to check their bags at the counter to avoid the use of booster bags. Originally, the term was used simply to refer an especially large bag used to show away stolen merchandise.

What is ISBN?

The International Standard Book Number (ISBN) is a unique numeric commercial book identifier. An ISBN is assigned to each edition and variation (except reprinting) of a book. For instance an ebook, a paperback and a hardcover edition of the same book would each have a different ISBN. The ISBN is 13 digits long if assigned on or after January 1, 2007 and 10 digits long if assigned before 2007. The method of assigning an ISBN is nation based and varies from state to state often depending on how large the publishing industry is. The initial ISBN configuration of recognition was generated in 1967 based upon the nine digit Standard Book Numbering (SBN) created in 1966. The 10-digit ISBN format was developed by the international organization for Standardisation (ISO).

What is Hair Weave



A hair weave is a treatment offered in many salons that provides clients with the look and feel of longer or thicker hair. The reason that this treatment is referred to by this name is that artificial or natural human hair purchased by the salon client is woven into the client's natural hair, quite close to the scalp. Depending on the client's natural hair type and desired look, the hair weave may be applied in a number of different ways. In some cases, it can entirely cover the client's natural hair. This type of treatment is generally used by people who have straight to wavy hair. This kind of treatment is very common nowadays.

What is Topical Cream?

Creams and ointments are applied to the skin to reduce inflammation in conditions such as eczema, dermatitis and allergic skin reactions. Ointments are more greasy than creams. They are preferable if your skin is dry, whereas moist or weepy skin is best treated with a cream. Using a cream or ointment allows the medicine to be applied directly to the inflamed area of skin. The most important thing to remember with topical creams and ointments is to apply them very thinly. This minimizes the amount absorbed through the skin into body. Apply it on the affected areas of skin. Never use them as moisturizers. Never apply it under baby's nappies or dressings, unless your doctor tells you to.

(Contd.. from p.15)

tal to building a future of 'tolerance and global peace'. This works across boundaries of faith and culture. Providing greater access to education, and bridging the skill gaps for a wider population is the priority of the 'Millennium Development Goals'. However, it is also important to look at the quality of education to skill our youth, and not just at the number of enrolments.

Katrina Kaif – “In a Class of their own”:

In distributing the awards for education titled: “In a Class of their own”, she reminded the females: “You are as powerful as what you know, because ‘knowledge’ is the source of power ... ‘Education’ is the way towards gender equality, in order to change people’s mindset. So strive to learn and educate yourselves.”

Mother Angelica, Founder of EWTN:

The Catholic Church in the USA has just lost the Poor Clare nun who changed the face of Catholicism in the USA and around the world. Mother Mary Angelica of the Annunciation, founder of the Catholic – Eternal World Television Network (EWTN), passed away on March 27, 2016, Easter Sunday. She was 92 years.

“Mother has always personified EWTN, the network that God asked her to establish. Her accomplishments and legacies in evangelization throughout the world are nothing short of a miracle, and can only be attributed to Divine mercy and providence, and her unwavering faith in our Lord”, said EWTN chairman and CEO, Michael

Warsaw.

In 1981, Mother Angelica launched EWTN, which today transmits 24-hour-a-day programming to more than 264 million homes in 144 countries. What began with 20 employees has now grown to nearly 400. EWTN broadcasts terrestrial and shortwave radio, operates religious goods catalogue, and publishes the National Catholic Register and Catholic News Agency, among others.

Mother is famous for her series, “Mother Angelica Live Classics”, and short wave radio channel WEWN which is broadcast by 215 stations. She has authored books: The Promised Woman; I am His Temple; and In the Shadow of His Light.

“Mother Angelica succeeded at a task the US Bishops themselves couldn’t achieve”, said Archbishop Charles Chaput of Philadelphia, who has served on EWTN’s board of governors since 1995. “She founded and grew a network that appealed to everyday Catholics, understood their needs, and so fed their souls. She had a lot of help, obviously, but that was part of her genius.”

“In passing to eternal life, mother Angelica leaves behind a spiritual heritage of holiness and a New Mission Crusade, that should inspire us all”, said Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight of Columbus. “Today ‘Knights Of Columbus’ and EWTN partner regularly on important projects.”

One of her two favorite quotes this author would like to share are:

1. “Vote for life. It may be your own.”
2. “You see, God expects His people to do the ridiculous, so that He can do the miraculous.”

Yes, how many of us (sons also), can obtain that peace, joy, and life, by clinging to Jesus’ garment of love, mercy and comfort, which Mother Angelica portrayed and for which she has hopefully inherited paradise: “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace and be healed of your affliction” (Mark 5:34).

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(Contd.. from p. 13)

states of life in the church, necessary for the church to witness to the fullness of Jesus Christ, in the sense, witness to his incarnational and eschatological dimensions. Priesthood is not, strictly speaking, related to celibacy, because it is not a state of life; rather a ministerial service. There is however no doubt that celibacy assists priests greatly in rendering priestly service, while they give witness to the eschatological dimension of Christ.

13. The strife for power, pelf and positions is all too evident in the church hierarchy. Give us a response away from the mundane Biblical quotes.

That is where the hierarchy goes terribly awry! It is time we returned to the understanding of Gospel authority and power.

14. There is sufficient evidence that Pope Francis' thoughts and opinions are not well received by some cardinals, bishops, priests and even laity. If you were a lay person what would you agree or disagree with?

Pope Francis, as I see, is clearly telling us that we need to return to the Gospel way of life! Living the Gospel in its fullness is not easy! Be sure, everyone who reminds us to do this will be 'crucified'! I think, the Pope is ready for it!

15. With age an experience, you have lived Vatican I and Vatican II, how see the church Vatican III ?

For another universal Council of the Church, at Vatican or some other place, I personally think, the time is ripe There has been so much of progress and rethinking with regard to Christian doctrine. We could harvest the fruits of our labour and bring Christian doctrine up-to-date. Councils are after all meant to help Christian living.

16. MT is more the perverse of scholars and seminary formation. Laity less prefer to go on guilt-rid-

den trips'. Your comments

MT in the right sense of the term is an aid to live Christian life; It is also meant for humans to live the 'human life' as humans. Scholars and seminaries should form themselves as persons in that sense so that they may in turn help others, more by example than words!

17. Pope Francis' statement "who am I to judge?" is still doing the rounds. Doesn't it cast a huge shadow on MT itself? How do you read his statement for laity?

Pope Francis had said it in a specific 'context'! It is not fair to universalize it for every issue or context! It is wrong to drag it and quote it as a panacea for every issue!

18. I curtly asked a double doctorate in canon law "who defines sin?" he said "the person's conscience". I replied "then why do you need canon law?" His silence was too loud. So, does MT define sin, shame, guilt? Even the Mosaic Law was mocked by Jesus...Your comments.

Sin has several meanings. We Christians follow the one of Christian revelation. It is not wholly correct to say that it is defined by a 'person's conscience'. Nor is it defined by MT unilaterally (exclaims). Jesus certainly did not want to mock Mosaic law.His only intent was that it be fulfilled. It is fulfilled by agapic love

19. Is it easier to be Catholic or easier to be Human?

We are all to be 'human' in the first place. Catholic faith is undoubtedly a help to be and to become human. (End)

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deliverance." He recorded in his journal that when all seemed lost and the ship would surely sink, he exclaimed, "Lord, have mercy upon us." Later in his cabin he reflected on what he had said and began to believe that God had addressed him through the storm and that grace had begun to work for him. He recorded in his journal that it was here that God intervened with His mercy and granted him a great deliverance. He celebrated this day for the rest of his life as his 'day of deliverance', when God's saving grace had awakened in him!

Since the author of this hymn was an ex-slave trader and had been put to test by God in various ways, it can be surmised that this song was strongly inspired by the life and conversion of St. Paul who was temporarily blinded on the Damascus road. The experiences were like bolts of lightning to a man who had given up all religious convictions in childhood itself. Saving Grace had indeed transformed him!

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Inspiration!

How to Be a Wiser Person

Intelligence is something, some say, we are born with.

On the other hand, wisdom, which is far more useful, is definitely something one can accumulate over a lifetime. Many search for ways to become wise, but few feel they have really achieved it.

The Berlin Wisdom Project of the late 80s defined wisdom as:

- Spiritual knowledge
- Factual knowledge
- Excellent judgment
- Excellent problem-solving skills
- Ability to learn from past experience
- Humility, emotional strength or ability to recover from defeat
- Openness and maturity - allowing another to see you as you really are
- A deeper understanding of human nature, including empathy for others and other cultures

However, if you don't think you embody all these qualities, there are SIX other ways to become wiser in the human experience:

1. Being Social

Research has shown that people who keep more contact with other people display higher levels of wisdom than those who remain more secluded. Some think this may be due to new people constantly giving us new ideas to think about, new information, new experiences, and this enriches the mind and gives us more wisdom. So make an effort, if not for others than for yourself. Stay in touch with old friends, and stay in contact with those

around you, it's the wise thing to do.

2. Open mindedness

Wisdom is the ability to understand



all aspects of a problem, without surrendering to personal feelings. The meaning of an open mind is to find true empathy and to understand that everyone has a life story that affects them in some way, and it is not our place to judge. A good habit is to write down, every day, what ails you. At the end of the day, take a look at that list and try to get a new perspective on each problem, you'll be surprised what things will come to mind.

3. "I could be mistaken"

A smart person understands that it is impossible to know everything, and that life always throws you a curve when you least expect it. Acknowledging our mistakes may, and often does, lead to greater wisdom. Remember, your ability to be wrong shouldn't damage your reputation as a wise man, but should increase it, because wise people know how to take responsibility for their mistakes.

4. Experiencing new things

While we each have our own personal tastes in books, music, art or movies, it is important to note that getting familiar with styles unknown will broaden your horizons and introduce new world views, new ideas and new outlooks on life. So try something new, or learn a new skill - it won't just make you wiser, it'll also keep you young!

5. Self-awareness

Many will say they have rich life experience, but when was the last time you really stopped to think of all you've learned throughout life?

Try this exercise: Write down your three biggest failures and your three biggest successes. Next to each of them write some of the events that lead to it and the lessons you learned. Look for patterns, without pride or regret, simple patterns to teach you about how you used each experience to drive you forward. After all, knowing yourself is the biggest challenge of all.

6. Know what goes on around you

Yes, the news is often dramatic, misrepresented or just depressing. But it's hard to make balanced decisions for yourself and others if you don't learn from the mistakes of others and, on larger scales, of your city, country and world. Keep updated, read a newspaper, watch the news or just read a news site online from time to time. Read the articles, not just headlines, and understand how you fit into this bigger world, and where you stand. This is crucial for true wisdom.



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MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Divorcee, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 162 lbs, Brownish Complexion, Edn.M.Sc., Computer Science, working as a Software Engineer in USA., Contact email : mumbaiopen@gmail.com OR 7738581130 **(Regd. No. 6493)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 30 years, Ht. 5' 9", Fair Complexion, Handsome, Edn. B.Com., working as CEO in Family Business. Seeks a good looking, smart, stylish girl. Contact email : mail2marg@gmail.com OR 9821556409 **(Regd. No. 6398)**

MUMBAI: Goan RC Bachelor, aged 37 years, Ht. 5' 6", good looking XII Pass, presently working as Share Broker having own bungalow accommodation at Bandra Mumbai also getting good regular monthly rent seeks a good-looking RC Spinster. Call 9167372840 Contact email : pintolazarus2012@gmail.com **(Regd. No. 6393)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 35 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduate, working as a Manager in Cruise Line. Contact email : oszy_2001yahoo.com OR 9833944206 **(Regd. No. 6385)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 34 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 64 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. HSC, working as a Script Writer. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : roydandsilva@gmail.com OR 28815914 **(Regd. No. 6384)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 42 years, Ht. 6' 4", Wt. 98 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn.HSC., working as a Steward in Oil Tanker - Foreign Ship. Contact email : 285vvictor@gmail.com OR 7798325784 **(Regd. No. 6380)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as an Asst. Retail Manager in Cruise Lines. Contact email : denzil.l.pinto@yahoo.co.in OR 9167613412 **(Regd. No. 6376)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 30 years, Ht. 5' 9", Fair Complexion, Handsome, Edn. B.Com., working

as CEO in Family Business. Seeks a good looking, smart, stylish girl. Contact email : mail2marg@gmail.com OR 9821556409 **(Regd. No. 6396)**

MUMBAI: Goan RC Bachelor, aged 37 years, Ht. 5' 6", good looking XII Pass, presently working as Share Broker having own bungalow accommodation at Bandra Mumbai also getting good regular monthly rent seeks a good-looking RC Spinster. Call 9167372840 Contact email : pintolazarus2012@gmail.com **(Regd. No. 6393)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 35 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduate, working as a Manager in Cruise Line. Contact email : oszy_2001@yahoo.com OR 9833944206 **(Regd. No. 6385)**

MUMBAI : Tamilian RC Bachelor, aged 40 years, Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. Electronics, Self employed, having own house. Contact email: cyril.khanna@yahoo.com OR 9867070056 **(Regd. No. 6322)**

MUMBAI : A R.C. Goan Widower age 70 no encumbrances, owns spacious flat, in perfect good health seeks matrimonial alliances from widows / spinsters above 60 years. Contact email : rick6522@gmail.com OR 7208966328 **(Regd. No. 6344)**

MUMBAI: Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 34 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 64 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. HSC, working as a Script Writer. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : roydandsilva@gmail.com OR 28815914 **(Regd. No. 6384)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 42 years, Ht. 6' 4", Wt. 98 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. HSC., working as a Steward in Oil Tanker - Foreign Ship. Contact email : 285vvictor@gmail.com OR 7798325784 **(Regd. No. 6380)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor,

Members are requested to inform us when they are settled, so that publication of their details can be discontinued.

aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as an Asst. Retail Manager in Cruise Lines. Contact email : denzil.l.pinto@yahoo.co.in OR 9167613412 **(Regd. No. 6376)**

GOA : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 60 kgs, Very Fair Complexion, Edn. 3 years Diploma in Catering, working as a Chef at a Supervisory level. Contact email: chef-savio83@gmail.com OR 8652744565 **(Regd. No. 6363)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, aged 25 years, Ht. 6', Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. in Electronics and Telecom from Mumbai University, working as a Software developer in a well known MNC in Mumbai. Only Child. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : clive2111@ymail.com OR 9967555521 **(Regd. No. 6359)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 41 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Admin. Controller in **DUBAI**. Contact email : dsouzarobin25@gmail.com OR Tel : 22-24983066 **(Regd. No. 6358)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC parents, residing at Navi Mumbai, invite alliance for their bachelor son 29/6", M.S. (Electronics) from RMIT, Australia. Australian citizen, working as Asst. Manager, in Australia, seeks alliance from qualified RC spinster upto 26/5'4" and above with good family background and Christian values. Please contact : wwlewis86@gmail.com / 022-27422720 **(Regd. No. 6357)**

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USA : Mangalorean R.C. Parents invite alliance from well educated Mangalorean R.C. Boy under 35 yrs., working in USA., for their spinster daughter 30 years, 5 Ft., Fair Complexion, Edn. : B.E. Working as a Software Engineer. Contact Email : dsouzadoreena@gmail.com OR 120-199 3665 **(Regd. No. 6513)**

MUMBAI : Keralite R.C. Parents invite alliance from well educated Keralite R.C. Boy under 30 yrs., for their spinster daughter 25 years, 4' 11", Fair Complexion, Beautiful, Edn. Graduate (B.M.M.), Working for a Private Limited company as a Secretary. Contact : Email angelabraham.18@gmail.com OR 9324393620. **(Regd. No. 6512)**

MUMBAI : RC Goan Spinster, 38 yrs, 5' 2", slim, Wheatish Complexion, looks young and good looking, holding USA Citizenship. Completed Associate Degree from USA. Presently residing in Mumbai for a short while. Seeking alliance from a well-educated, well-settled, good family background bachelor from USA or someone from UK, Canada, Australia upto 42 yrs. Reply with details and latest photo to senorita_gomes@rediffmail.com or 9769825928. **(Regd. No. 6031)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Spinster, Date of birth 14-5-1983, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 63 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Sc. Nursing, working as a ICU Nurse in Abudhabi-UAE. Seeks a well educated Mangalorean Bachelor with good family values. Currently in India contact immediately. email: janydz_1484@yahoo.com OR 9930076741 / 28918871. **(Regd. No. 6502)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 24 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 49 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Com., working. Contact email : dsouzaavi29@gmail.com OR 9920113059 **(Regd. No. 6442)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 28 years, Ht. 5'5", Wt. 68 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., working as a Sr. Associate. Contact email : olgapin123@gmail.com OR Tel.: 9867449604 **(Regd. No. 6441)**

MUMBAI : RC Spinster, aged 32 years, Ht. 5'4", Wt. 64 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Risk Analyst. Contact email : jesmetal@hathway.com OR 9821925913 **(Regd. No. 6440)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean/Goan RC Spinster, aged 29 years, Ht. 5'6", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. Comp. MBA., working for MNC. Contact email : sybil8.lobo@gmail.com OR 9920309470 **(Regd. No. 6439)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean/Goan RC parents of spinster daughter 31 yrs, 5' 7", graduate, well built, very fair, good looking with a pleasing & cheerful personality having good family

background & moral values. Working abroad for an international airlines administration. (OCI in progress). Invites alliance from well qualified well settled suitable bachelors with good family values and from decent cultured catholic family in India or abroad kindly reply with full details & recent photos to lmna31@hotmail.com **(Regd. No. 6438)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., Nurse, working as a B.Sc. Staff Nurse in SAUDI. Contact email : sybilavares18@gmail.com OR 9657035849 **(Regd. No. 6437)**

PUNE : RC Spinster, aged 27 years, Ht. 5', Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. T.T.C., B.A., perusing B.Ed., Teacher in Convent School. Contact email : prachir369@gmail.com OR 9823120272 **(Regd. No. 6433)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 29 years, Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., IT., MBA., working as an Analyst. Contact email : cecy.martis@gmail.com OR 9920966061 **(Regd. No. 6432)**

PUNE : Protestant Christian Spinster, aged 29 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 52 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. (Computer), working in SYDNEY (Australia), as a Software Engineer. She has a P.R. Contact email : wilson.pandit@gmail.com OR 9890815206. **(Regd. No. 6431)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 27 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com, C.A. (Inter), working as an Accounts Executive. Contact email : philomina_88@yahoo.com OR 9867175073 **(Regd. No. 6430)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Spinster, aged 27 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.A. (Lit) Teacher by profession. Contact email : shalantam@gmail.com OR 91-67285160 **(Regd. No. 6428)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 30 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E., working as a Sr. Analyst in MNC. Contact email : joe51in@yahoo.co.in or 9322282297 **(Regd. No. 6427)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 50 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. Bachelors in Physiotherapy, working as a Physiotherapist. Contact email : tracy.veigas89@gmail.com OR 7506574831 **(Regd. No. 6426)**

MUMBAI : R.C. Spinster, 25, 5' 2", post graduate, fair, preety, working seeks alliance from R.C. bachelors, below 30, well qualified financially stable, own accommodation with good values and family background Goans, East Indians, Mangaloreans may send their details to : dsilva.maggie252@gmail.com OR 9960376878 **(Regd. No. 6425)**

MUMBAI : RC Spinster, aged 29 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 61 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Sc. working for Govt. Firm. Contact email : graciav765@gmail.com OR 9987890858 **(Regd. No. 6423)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Spinster, aged 46 years, Ht.

5' 4", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, looks much younger to her age, Edn. HSC., working as admin. Executive. Contact email : marthapereira2000@gmail.com OR 9870367090 **(Regd. No. 6422)**

MUMBAI : RC Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 64 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc. Computer, working as a Graphic Designer. Contact email : kgfrancis@rediffmail.com OR 9820326609 **(Regd. No. 6421)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Spinster, aged 24 years, Ht. 5' 6", Well built, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduate, working as an Accounts Executive. Seeks a Goan RC Bachelor below 30 years. Contact Email : taureangirl1991@gmail.com **(Regd. No. 6420)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Spinster, aged 27 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. C.A., working as a C.A. Seeks a Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor. Contact email : rosefina.20@gmail.com OR 9022026602 **(Regd. No. 6417)**

MUMBAI : RC Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5'1", Wt. 48 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., (Banking & Insurance) working as a Consultant. Contact email : rosemarybharda@yahoo.com OR 9224780162 **(Regd. No. 6414)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 25 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Post Graduate (HR), working as a Junior Officer. Contact email : natasha.lima25@yahoo.com OR 9920930518 **(Regd. No. 6410)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Spinster, aged 29 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. BMS, M.Com., MBA., working as a Asst. Manager, Contact email : silverbells1960@gmail.com OR 28931512 **(Regd. No. 6409)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Spinster, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 57 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., IT., MBA working as a IT Engineer. Contact email : m.rodricks24@gmail.com OR 9821596241 / 26424190 **(Regd. No. 6408)**

MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 28 years, Ht. 5', Wt. 46 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., MBA working as a HR. Contact email : picardo.princijaj@gmail.com OR 9833077789 **(Regd. No. 6406)**

MUMBAI : Goan RC Spinster, aged 32 years, Ht. 5'5", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. TYBA., working as a Receptionist. Contact email : mascarenhasprescilla@gmail.com OR 9930953353 **(Regd. No. 6405)**

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Is Religion And Culture Today's Reality?

Religion and culture when combined is often the fragrance of faith, some people say. Are we prepared to accept this analogy?

Huge strides have been taken in the Catholic Church to try and understand current trends related to this evaluation with reservations, of course. Should we Indianise or Hindunise the Holy Mass? Can we mix culture with Church norms and find approval?

The Canonization of Mother Teresa on 4th September 2016 at the Vatican has set in motion much planning for the solemn celebrations: looking into the proper liturgy, hymns and rituals for the occasion, dimensions in expenses, pilgrimage issues, perhaps most important being the Holy sacrifice of the papal Mass with focus on the theme, image and how much or how little culture to involve in the event.

In November 1999, the theme for the Mass of Pope John Paul II, a prelude to the beatification of Mother Teresa was dotted with Hindu symbolism (lights, bells, Diwali sets, and temple acts of worship).



BY MELVYN BROWN

Was this the idea of the CBI, programmed in 1969? At that time Archbishop Lourdusamy of Bangalore was Chairman of the Liturgy Commission. Since then, twelve Hindu signs and performances (rituals) had been put into the Mass. Was this to show how Indians worshipped in their way of community and culture?

Drumming up the power of prayer, sacrifice and belief, the Church watches and wages its own will and wins the opposition Satan washes on board.

In India today, the church talks of Inculturation, a combining of culture and religion, it even seems to include Hinduisation. We should, at all times protect the embodiment of the Holy sacrifice of the Mass.

We should not Hinduise it and instead Indianise it. Or, should we do both? Mother Teresa's papal Mass at St. Peter's, Rome, had been Hinduised in 1999, in preparation for the beatification .

The Catholic Church was preordained and surfaced to be a spiritual battleship, an almighty dreadnought that would power the faith without being dented, impeded or taken off course. Sometimes it is caught off guard by the devil's determination to discredit almighty God.

"Latin" said Pope Pius XII was "an effective safeguard against the corruption of the Roman Catholic doctrine."

Have you heard of the 'Novus Ordo' Mass with small liturgical changes in the vernaculars? Are you aware of the celebration of the Mass with kumkum, bhajans, dance and scripture readings of Hinduism? If you have heard about it you might have said to yourself it's like a Hindu puja. Pope Benedict XVI did not approve of 'dance' and certain rituals at Holy Mass.

All this inculturation towards Indianisation, or shall we say Hinduisation is a created system for WHAT?

Too many questions seeking answers, and it seems from research that only those in the "Who Matter" zone know about reaching out to Indian Catholics of a dozen different communities for a consensus.

We look forward to Mother TERESA'S canonization come 4th September 2016.

Thanksgiving



Thanks to Sacred Heart of Jesus & St. Jude for the favours granted
 May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, loved, glorified & praised throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. Sacred Heart of Jesus, Thy kingdom come. St. Jude worker of miracles pray for us. St. Jude helper of the hopeless pray for us. Amen, Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days.

— A. V. D'Souza

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**68th show on April 24, 2016, at St. Juze Rangmantap,
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