

# THE SECULAR CITIZEN

Vol.29 Issue No.16

Total Pages 28

Mumbai 20 - 26 April 2020

Rs. 10

A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY

**Read inside:**

- ✱ **Between Pandemic and Terrorism:  
The "It Could Be Me" Factor.**
- ✱ **Spiritual Counselling During Covid - 19**
- ✱ **Voice of the people**
- ✱ **You the citizens decide:**
- ✱ **Doomsday Predictor On Lock Down**
- ✱ **Health Is Wealth**
- ✱ **'Lockdown' - pitiful plight of migrant labour**
- ✱ **IN LOCKDOWN MODE (Poem)**
- ✱ **Current Scenario – Analysis & Business Response**
- ✱ **Will Hindus Prove the Depth of Their Own Radicalisation Wrong?**
- ✱ **What's Good This Friday?**
- ✱ **Book review**
- ✱ **Indian Social Behaviour v/s Government Action**
- ✱ **Fun page**
- ✱ **Pandemic may speed up change in the Church**
- ✱ **Matrimonials**
- ✱ **The Lockdown (Poem)**



## THE SECULAR CITIZEN

will be published as e-Paper in the digital format till the situation improves.  
If you wish to receive the same regularly send us your email / WhatsApp no.

to : Email: [secular@sezariworld.com](mailto:secular@sezariworld.com) or WhatsApp no. **+919820485389**

# Between Pandemic and Terrorism: The “It Could Be Me” Factor

by Don Aguiar.

The coronavirus has created its own form of terror. It has upended daily life, paralyzed the economy and divided people one from another. It has engendered fear of the stranger, of the unknown and unseen. It has emptied streets, restaurants and cafes. It has instilled a nearly universal agoraphobia. It has stopped air travel and closed borders.

It has sown death in the thousands and filled hospitals with wartime surges, turning them into triage wards. People gird for the grocery store in mask and gloves, as if they were going into battle.

Particularly for India and Europe, which has experienced waves of terrorism that achieved some of the same results, while the current plague different response. People run screaming from a terrorist's bomb and then join marches of solidarity and defiance. But this virus has created a different terror, because it is invisible, pervasive and has no clear conclusion. It is inflicted by nature, not by human agency or in the name of ideology. And it has demanded a markedly difference response.

People run screaming from a terrorist bomb and then join marches of solidarity and defiance. But when the all clear finally sounds from the new coronavirus lockdown, people will emerge into the light like moles from their burrows.

People are more afraid of terrorism than of driving their car. Many more people die from car accidents or falling in the bathtub than from terrorism, but people fear terrorism more, because they cannot control it. While terrorism is about killing people, it's mostly about manipulating our ideas and calculations of interest.

As Trotsky famously said, “the purpose of terror is to terrorize.”

But the terrorism of the coronavirus is all the more frightening not only because it is so widespread, but also because it is impervious to any of the usual responses — surveillance, SWAT teams, double agents or persuasion.

It's not a human or ideological enemy, so it's not likely to be impressed by rhetoric or bluster.

The virus is something we don't know, we can't control, and so we're afraid of it. And for good reason — it has already killed more Indians than those who died during the terrorist attacks of 1993 and thereafter, and it will kill many times more.

There is a difference between man-made and natural disasters. People are typically more afraid of man-made threats, even if they are less damaging.

But this virus is likely to be different. It goes much deeper into society than terrorism, and it affects individuals on a much larger scale.

There is a similar sense of helplessness, however, you don't know when terrorism or the pandemic will strike, so it invades your personal life. With terror, you worry about being in crowds and rallies and sporting events. It's the same with the virus — crowds spell danger.

Part of what makes terrorism terrifying is its randomness. Terrorists count on that randomness, and in a sense this virus behaves the same way. It has the capacity to make people think, ‘It could be me’.

But to defeat the virus requires a different mentality. You see the bombing of the Mumbai local trains by the terrorist, so you wonder about travelling

in them, it's a pretty direct impact. But the virus requires one greater step — to think collectively, so as not to burden others by spreading the virus and overwhelm the health system.

And it requires a different sort of solidarity. After the terrorist attacks of 1993, the Prime Minister urged Indians “to go about their lives, to use trains, to travel, to work.” After both the Charlie Hebdo and Bataclan attacks of 2015, President François Hollande did the same in France, leading marches and public demonstrations of public resilience and defiance.

But in the face of the virus, with so many societies so clearly unprepared, resilience now is not to get on a train. To be resilient now is to stay at home.

So it is difficult for governments that learned to urge citizens to be calm in times of terrorism to now learn how to frighten them into acting for the common good. Rather than mobilization, this enemy demands stasis.

People respond patriotically, and even viscerally, to the nature of the security response to terrorism, from the helicopters to the shootouts. But there's nothing sexy or cool about staying at home, or ordering a company to produce face masks and gowns.

It will also be difficult for governments to adjust their security structures to deal with threats that do not respond to increased military spending and enhanced spying.

For a long time, analysts who worked on “softer” threats, like health and climate, were considered secondary. Hard-core security people laughed at that, but no one will doubt that now. There will be departments of



# THE SECULAR CITIZEN

A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY

Vol.29 Issue No.16 April 20-26, 2020 Rs.10/-

99, Perin Nariman Street, Fort, Mumbai - 400 001.

Mobile: +91 9820485389 / 9820473103

E-mail : secular@sezariworld.com / seculardivo@gmail.com

Website: www.sezariworld.com

Editor: LAWRENCE COELHO

## Subscriptions Rate:

One year (anywhere in India) Rs. 500

Two years (anywhere in India) Rs.1000

Five years (anywhere in India) Rs. 2000

One year (outside India) Rs. 3500

## E-paper Edition

sent anywhere in the world (by email)

One year

Rs. 600 or US \$ 15

## Advertisement. Tariff

Over all size 21.5 cms x 27cms ● Print area 18 cms x 25.5 cms

Full pg. back Colour (19 cms x 24 cms) Rs. 18,000

Center spread colour(39 cms x 23.5 cms) Rs. 18,000

Full pg. inside Cover colour(18 cms x 24 cms) Rs. 12,000

Full pg. inner colour (18 cms x 24 cms) Rs. 10,000

Half pg. Colour (18 cms x 12 cms) Rs. 6,000

Full page B/W (18 cms x 24 cms) Rs. 7,000

Half page B/W (18 cms x 12 cms) Rs, 5,000

## Small Size Ads B/W

12 x 12cms Rs. 2400 ● 6 x 24cms Rs. 2400

18 x 6cms Rs. 1800 ● 6 x 12cms Rs. 1200

6 x 6cms Rs. 700

## Matrimonial Classifieds:

● Rs. 500 per insertion (for 35 words) (includes box no.)

● Rs. 3000 for 12 insertions. (1 year The Secular Citizen FREE)

Digital copy of **THE SECULAR CITIZEN** now available through WhatsApp / Email for subscribers worldwide. Send in your request to : +91 - 9820485389 or secular@sezariworld.com

Dear Reader,

Forward  
This issue of

**THE SECULAR CITIZEN**

by Email.  
WhatsApp,  
Facebook  
and other  
social network  
platforms  
to all your  
contacts  
and  
friends

(Contd.. from p. 2)

health security and virologists hired by the government, and our idea of security will change.

And there will be new threats afterward — worries about economic collapse, widespread debt, social upheavals. Many fear the impact of such low oil prices on Arab and Persian Gulf countries that need to pay salaries for civil servants and the military, let alone deal with subsidies on bread.

But even the Islamic State has warned its adherents that the healthy should not enter the land of the epidemic and the afflicted should not exit from it, which may provide some respite.

The virus and the attacks carried out are being linked explicitly in the debate here. But it is being done in a critical way, to criticize how unprepared the government has been, both then and now, to deal with a major threat.

“People say, ‘We’ve already been through this, so how can we be so unprepared?’”

But unlike largely homogeneous Norway, sprawling India is deeply divided.

Unlike 1993, when a single set of events united the country in an instant in its grief, this is a slowly rolling crisis that affects different parts of the country and the society at different speeds. So we’re not united as a country.

Given the already deep political polarization in India, with partisan battles over religion, science and facts, the virus is likely to have the same impact as the plague did in Athens during the Peloponnesian War, creating indifference to religion and law and bringing forward a more reckless set of politicians.

But ultimately, the delayed response from the government delegitimizes the existing political leadership. If the political consequences are severe enough, they could lead to the end of the imperial prime ministership and a return to the kind of federal and congressional activism that the Founding Fathers designed our system for.

The virus may be politically divisive, but it is also a reminder, that free societies thrive on norms of civic responsibility.

# WHETHER TO SLOW DOWN THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, THE GOVERNMENTS SHOULD PROVIDE THE POOR IN THE COUNTRY WASHABLE FACE MASKS?

by Eric D'Sa

**T**he Prime Minister in recent days has been suggesting that the people should keep wearing at least home made masks when they go out, besides ensuring social distancing. However, the Ministry of Health is giving contradictory advise that wearing face masks is not necessary for people who are not ill. This is even after some research, the U.S. CDC has recommended the universal use of face masks. This is in addition to washing of the hands with soap and water regularly.

It is being recognised worldwide these days that the pandemic can be slowed down only by a lockdown as well as by ensuring universal mask use. Flattening the epidemic curve is the need of the day in a poor country such as India with a large dense population. On the curve showing the spread of COVID-19, like any other epidemic, Y axis and X axis represent case numbers and time, respectively. A normal epidemic curve is bell-shaped, with an early ascending slope (first phase), a peak (second phase) and a declining slope (third phase). The area under the curve represents the total number of cases. India is now in the first face and doing its best to take time before reaching the second phase of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A rapid increase in cases will demand far more healthcare facilities than now available in the country, even in more advanced states like Kerala. Healthcare facilities were not created in anticipation of a pandemic and are grossly inadequate for India to tackle even the first phase. A flattening of the curve will reduce the demand on beds in intensive care units, respirators, and specialists to manage acute respiratory distress syndrome. If the peak can be dwarfed and come after some breathing time; the pressure will be eased. However, the area under the curve, the total number of cases, whether the curve is bell-shaped or flattened, will

be the same. This crucial information in the epidemiology of the epidemic must be taken into account for planning a response.

There are two ways of flattening the curve: imposing a strict lockdown for a number of weeks or use of face masks all the time when outside our homes. A lockdown physically distances families from each other. The disadvantage is that family members may not be able to keep a physical distance of two metres from one another all the time. As a result, intra-

**YOU THE CITIZENS  
DECIDE:**

familial spread occurs and more people are infected at the end of the lockdown than at the beginning. But during a lockdown community transmission is prevented. But a poor country such as India can not afford a prolonged lockdown without causing severe damage to its economy.

There are four reasons for the universal use of masks. First, any infected person will not infect others because the droplets of fluids that we let out during conversations, coughing or sneezing will be blocked by the mask. Remember, most COVID-19 infectious people don't have symptoms, or have mild symptoms, and are unaware that they are infected. Second, uninfected people will have some protection from droplet infection during interactions with others. For those who wear eyeglasses, there is additional protection from droplets falling on the conjunctiva. When both parties wear masks, the probability of transmission is greatly reduced. Third, the mask-wearers will avoid inserting their fingertips into their nostrils or mouths. Viruses deposited on surfaces may be carried by hand if we touch such surfaces; if we do not touch our eyes, nostrils or mouth, this mode of transmission is prevented. Fourth, everyone will be reminded all the time that

these are abnormal days especially in a country such as India where wearing a face mask is not a norm.

In overcrowded areas such as slums, a lockdown will not be efficient in slowing down transmission. In such places, universal mask use is a simple way to slow down transmission. In India the wise choice would have been to ensure universal mask use in slums, bazaars, shops selling essential commodities, etc. and even on roads, parks buses and trains before the lockdown and get people used to social distancing. Lockdown could have been enforced only in cities and towns where the disease was detected.

We see these days that the Chinese, Japanese and South Koreans are using face masks all time outside their homes. Taiwan and the Czech Republic depended primarily on universal mask use and slowed down the epidemic. In the Czech Republic, people made their own masks. Cotton pieces, preferably coarse, three layers, stitched with two straps, make masks of sufficient quality. These masks should cover the nose from just below the eye level and reach and cover the chin. All adults, and children who are old enough to wear masks, should wear them. At the end of the day, cotton masks can be washed in soapy water and hung to dry for re-use.

COVID-19 mortality in India will be high due to three reasons. COVID-19 Virus High virulence is the given and cannot be altered. Co-morbidity such as diabetes, chronic diseases and malnutrition is already prevalent. Then there is low-quality and insufficient healthcare. Slowing down the epidemic by imposing a lockdown and ensuring universal mask use gives us the chance to protect people from infection and improve healthcare quality. We the Citizens can take the lead of protecting ourselves and our families by regularly using face masks when we go out of our homes.



## Maintain Social Distancing

With the novel Coronavirus spreading all over the world like wildfire, the government of all countries have imposed strict restrictions on the movements of people to protect them from this deadly virus.

Doctors and other health authorities, along with many government officials, lay stress on the importance of citizens maintaining a safe distance from each other to protect themselves and others who might be at a higher risk of contacting the disease.

One needs to realise that social distancing is not the ideal solution to combat this virus as South Asia is densely populated and people live in close proximity to each other.

Joint families are common, which can mean as many as 20 people living under the same roof. The numbers are far higher for those living in slums where there may be communal cooking and washing. It may be difficult for families to make their elders understand the need for social distancing.

The solution lies elsewhere and has to be found. Meanwhile, there is a need for a perpetual awareness campaign that highlights the importance of social distancing and adopting good hygienic practices especially when the Coronavirus scare is real.

—Jubel D'Cruz,  
Mumbai

## Globalisation and battle against Coronavirus

The quarantine facilities in India are not properly run and people are complaining about the bad behavior of the

health authorities. In fact, even health workers are complaining about not being properly equipped. An important issue which the government should consider is the psychological health of quarantined people. Quarantine can cause many psychological problems.

To overcome these outcomes, the government must properly train the people of taking care of quarantine places. The government must also give people as much information as possible by telling them what and why this is happening and when it will end, provide them with meaningful entertainment/activities, educate them, provide adequate supplies of food, medicine, internet and a safe space for meeting relatives and friends.

There are many people in our neighbourhood and in our housing societies who are poor; so it's time for us to help them out and give them the real message of humanity. Hence, I request everyone to please help your needy neighbours and let nobody sleep without food because being human is our responsibility, just as our Lord Jesus Christ said, "Love your neighbour just as you love yourself" (Matthew 22:39).

Many people also keep blaming the Coronavirus pandemic on globalisation, and they say that the only way to stop more outbreaks is social distancing and to de-globalise the world, stop working or going to offices and universities, restrict travel, build walls and reduce trade. However, short-term isolation is important to stop the epidemic, but long-term isolation will lead to economic collapse and downfall without offering any real protection against this disease.

We need to keep one thing in mind that the actual antidote to Corona-virus is not isolation, but rather co-operation. Years ago, epidemics like Spanish flu, plague, Ebola and Cholera killed billions of people all over the world and it was long before the current age of globalisation. The history of epidemics

teaches us that we cannot really stop these epidemics from spreading just by closing borders and get isolated because even in the Middle Ages, they spread rapidly.

The real protection comes from sharing scientific information which is reliable and it comes from global unity. When one country suffers from pandemic, it should be able to share the true information about the outbreaks without fear of economic calamity while other countries should trust that information and provide a helping hand rather than showing a cold shoulder to the victim. Lock downs are essential for stopping the spread of the virus, but it could also lead to economic collapse.

Humanity needs to guard the borders between the human world and virus-sphere but not borders between countries.

If the epidemic results in closer global co-operation, it will be a victory not only against the Corona-virus, but against all future viruses too.

— Jubel D'Cruz,  
Mumbai

## Only love can save the world from the pandemic

This year, Good Friday was observed and Easter was celebrated amid the Coronavirus pandemic which has spread like wildfire throughout the world. Truly, the world is suffering, even as Pope Francis said he doesn't know whether the pandemic is God's anger on His people because of sin. But he mentioned that it was surely nature's response. Jesus too suffered on the cross and died and was later resurrected. By His passion, death and resurrection, Jesus showed He cared and loved the world. Easter is a time to reiterate God's promise to us --- that we have a relationship of friendship with Him. It is time we realise that only love has the power to get us out of this deadly situation.

— Jubel D'Cruz,  
Mumbai

# Spiritual Counselling During Covid - 19

*“We are human after all, and you are telling me not to be afraid, not to worry – look here, I am not a mystic or a saint, can you understand?” The woman was truly disturbed and who wouldn’t be, especially if you have loved ones and those who depend on you at a time of crisis.*

*“The Lord is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear?” Ps. 27*

Faith and true belief in Christ can make a person fearless and assured in prayers, hopes and discernment. The cross shows us two paths in life leading to death, the promise of life in death and the remembering after death of life. Our salvation lies in the death of Christ and his Resurrection.

“Only when we are no longer afraid do we begin to live.”  
- Dorothy Thompson

God created us to enjoy the gift of his love: the breath of life; to serve him with praise, devotion, adoration and happiness, to adore him, to trust him, to worship him with no second thoughts, to live for him unto Eternal life.

## **Why is spiritual counseling important?**

The splendid and unique idea of bringing together spirituality and faith produces an inner strength to control the shades of anger, fear, panic or frustration in our jour-

ney in life. Learning this lesson will become the bedrock to rediscover the purpose in God’s creation. Only spiritual counseling can comfort and place a person on the true path.

It’s only when you apply the articles of faith to your own personal life creating a feeling of goodness, your efforts to heal and help others to empower their mind and spiritual self will show you the reasons why spiritual counseling is important.

When a person goes to the confessional they come away with a feeling of inner relief as though a burden had been lifted. The pain, worry and anguish vanish. The forgiveness of sins is good to receive, and to accept absolution.

The lay spiritual counselor can prepare a person to come out of the woodwork and teaches him how to make a good confession.

“Every man has his secret sorrows which the world knows not, and often times we call a man cold when he is only sad.”

-Henry W. Longfellow

## **Do People Need Spiritual Direction?**

In order to enrich your spiritual growth in faith with the power of spiritual enlightenment, you will need a mentor, any pious person who will give you the confidence to take him in trust and confidence, a person who will guide you in every step of your trek through the storms and the dark clouds in your path, an inner feeling of spiritual strength.



BY MELVYN BROWN

You need a spiritual guide to empower you with compassion, persuasion and honesty to relay the Good News, and to win souls for Christ.

You were created by God to serve a purpose in this life, at the same time having ‘free will’ to use responsibly and constructively. Everyone grows up with the need to share, to care and to know, how and when to make proper decisions.

Spiritual Counseling focuses on your personal religious life. How would you weigh your relationship with God? What is your view on devotions, novenas, retreats, confession, faith, Holy Mass, Adoration, Benediction, litany, Holy Scripture and much more?

The first rule is to trust your spiritual guide. When you connect with your mentor you will discover a new chapter in the life you live. The gift of faith will shine in your heart and radiate its light to those around you.

# Doomsday Predictor On Lock Down

## What will happen after lock down is over.

Two scenarios will emerge. At the one end there is the doomsday predictor, who says that the world in general and India in particular will be in dire straits with millions finding hard to make both ends meet. On the other end there is an optimist who sees a golden opportunity in crisis. His opinion is based on the unprecedented unity shown by Indians cutting across party loyalty which was once again on display at 9 pm on Sunday. I fall in the category of an optimist and I hope we can cut across China in trade and commerce and go one step further in our quest of reaching a peak in the months to come. I, for one, am inclined to be on the middle of these two ends but slightly inclined to the optimist side.

There are three litmus tests for picking the stocks in times of distress: are - Price to BV and if it's less than 1, check quality of BV.

Ownership equity is diluted by pledge and overall integrity perception of top management / owners. We should understand the product they sell or not? If it's a complex product. Since you will not understand its demand and supply in crisis and recessionary times. Quality of PE Ratio and Market Capitalization to trend in volumes of trade. If volume trades are abysmally low, one needs to be careful for manipulation to jack up price and if DI is purchasing it's done to keep markets in good humour.

There is always an opportunity in crisis, be it Financial stress / economic stress or in Job Markets, provided one has developed unique capabilities to support the organization in critical times. Hot skills or in personal level survival with meagre frugal fully calculating personal

level risk elements and mitigate, say like having Personal Medical insurance and proper asset allocations to meet the requirements. This crisis will definitely change priorities of Government, Society we live and individuals. This too will pass through and we get opportunities to correct including staying positively.

Narendra Modi is dealing with an exceptional crisis. No PM has had to face such a situation that has impacted every part of India and every aspect of life. If a family member is seriously ill we get shaken. Here, his 130 crore people are at risk. Some are saying lock down should have been met earlier. Some are saying Army should have been called. Some are saying intelligence failure and so on and so forth. Everyone has retrospective opinions but none has to bear the responsibility of 130 cr people.

If the lock down doesn't succeed then he gets targeted. If it does well still he gets targeted because the economy is hit. If he didn't call for a lock down then he would've been hounded for lethargy even if it had kept the economy going. The PM is always at the receiving end. You call for a nation of 130 cr people to stop work. For the poor

there is no job and they run the risk going without food. The rich cry their earnings have come down drastically and their lifestyles have changed a bit. Middle-class says the government is not doing enough to help us financially.' Again, primarily criticism.

Despite all that he does with single-minded concentration for the nation, something that is unparalleled in our history. One after the other dealing with India's core issues, and then to add problems comes the Corona virus in the midst of economic crisis. There is always hope for recovery and the people should work hard and make the dreams come true despite Corona virus set back. It is time to work on a moral booster and hope is the best medicine to overcome such a ticklish position. Doomsday predictor is optimistic.

—Jayanthi Subramaniam

### Subscriptions for

#### **THE SECULAR CITIZEN**

Renewal as well as New, can be sent through Bank Fund Transfer to any one of the following banks:

**Bank: HDFC Bank**  
**Branch : CST - Mumbai VT**  
**Account Name: The Secular Citizen**  
**Current Account No. 03552000006744**  
**ISFC code: HDFC0000355**  
or  
**Bank: Citizen Credit Co-op Bank Ltd.,**  
**Branch : Colaba, Mumbai**  
**Account Name: The Secular Citizen**  
**Current Account No. 209003100000489**  
**ISFC code: CCBL0209003**

Please inform us through email: [secular@sezariworld.com](mailto:secular@sezariworld.com) or through phone: 9820485389 after transferring the same.

#### **THE SECULAR CITIZEN**

News item, Articles, Stories, Opinion, interview, Poems, etc. can be sent by

WhatsApp: +91 9820485389

Email:  
[secular@sezariworld.com](mailto:secular@sezariworld.com)  
[news@sezariworld.com](mailto:news@sezariworld.com)  
[seculardivo@gmail.com](mailto:seculardivo@gmail.com)

by Post

**The Secular Citizen**

99, Perin Nariman Street, 1st Floor,  
Fort, Mumbai 400001

# Health Is Wealth

## **SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST - C.K. SUBRAMANIAM AT 70 (DOB 7/1/1950) OPEN HIS MIND ON HEALTH HAZARDS AND HOW TO OVERCOME IT.**

As a senior citizen at 70, I have gone through many trials and tribulations all these years. But as a sound opening batsman, I had the guts to face many health hazards with grit and determination. At a young age, I had the problem of piles (with blood), but I made it a point to visit my family doctor and consulted nearby hospital to make sure the ways and means to get rid of the problem. My doctor was a Sikh from Punjab and he gave medicines and advised me to eat Isabgol husk to help me to get rid of the constipation problem. He gave an important tip to push piles coming out with your finger inside so that it will come out till the next morning. This simple method helped to lead a good life and attend my office duties regularly without even taking sick leave throughout my career. The doctor is no more now but still I thank him every day in my mind. The problem is fully cured now and even at this stage I feel comfortable and never had any problem.

Again, I suffered from peptic ulcer but the way I planned my food habits definitely helped and there was no need for a surgery as well. I suffered from serious asthmatic problem when I was 36 years old. I suffered first attack in Chennai after visiting Bangalore for 3 training programmes of our Bank during winter season. I could not breathe properly day and night and I used to get sleep after 2 PM in the night. Despite the handicap I was getting up early and was punctual in attending my office. I tried various

medicines and my doctor at Chennai gave cortisone (steroids) tablets also. Somehow, I avoided taking steroids and look at Ayurvedic as an alternative to cure asthma. I was taking Kashayam regularly and the intensity came down drastically and I was able to sleep soundly. Pankaj Kasthuri helped me to get rid of the problem now and I am free from breathing problem. I do some yoga including Pranayam whenever I find time. I am regular walker for at least half an hour day. Adding salt to the painful leg, I had varicose veins in my right leg. I struggled to walk long distances and could stand for a long time initially. I applied Valiya Narayana Thailam and Pinna Thailam to keep the legs away from dryness and that helped me out. And one dermatologist helped me to get rid of eczema coming out in the varicose veins affected leg and my legs are very normal now.

Recently, I conducted a cricket coaching camp for children up to 16 years for five consecutive years and I was able to stand up for 3 hours in the morning daily along with the children without any discomfort. As a matter of fact, when a new ball was taken on any day, I was the person bowling medium pace, swinging the ball both ways and still cartwheel the stump of my wards consistently. When the ball was hit hard I was able to grab the caught bowled chances with both the hands not once but on regular basis just like a youngster. I am wearing a specs for shortsightedness with -3 power on both the eyes. I used to see the Sun light in the early morning hours and my eye-sight has improved consider-

ably. My power never increased and I maintain the same level for the last forty-five years and I can recognize the colors well and work on my PC without wearing a specs very easily. I am having blood pressure as well. But I am not scared. I am wearing a Rudraksh and take necessary precautions to keep the BP level within the permissible limit. I go for sleep by 10.30 PM and get up by 6 AM to avoid any hangover and to have a fresh life every day. Both BP and Sugar are close cousins and I had high sugar level. I take regularly the water contains of KAWASAKI wood chips which helped me to keep it 110-140 levels as per doctor's advice. I avoid sugar, fried items and potato to reduce my weight and maintain my weight at the desired level. I drink lot of water and eat healthy food cooked by my wife. Once in a week I take the crushed contents of Karela with hot water to clean the system. Health is wealth and healthy habits will definitely help you to keep a healthy mind and a peaceful life.

The six best doctors in the world are sunlight, rest, exercise, diet, self-confidence and friends. Maintain them in all stages and enjoy a healthy life.

**Wedding Invitation, Christening,  
First Holy Communion, Mortuary  
Cards & Religious Goods**  
Contact:

**David & Company**  
Rivendell House, 1st Floor, 650,  
J. S. S. Road, 2nd Dhoitalao  
Lane, Mumbai 400002  
Tel.: 22019010 / 2205 7394  
2206 0344 / 22079592

Email: davidprinters@gmail.com  
www.davidcompany.com

# 'Lockdown' - pitiful plight of migrant labour

- Ivan Saldanha-Shet.

In Mumbai the sudden lockdown has had devastating results for all kinds of people it is evident. But, the 'domino effect' on migrant and casual labour in the informal sector which employs 90% of labour as daily wagers. These who have absolutely no security, facility or base are entirely dependent on day to day survival, far from their home and hearth without even the most basic needs. Out of sight of the 'haves' and practically out of mind too - 40 crore will loose lively hood. This is a worse scenario than world war II, it is seen in most places in-reality. Government has the picture, but not the will and organization to mitigate, in the circumstances. The social workers and NGO organisations have the know-how and motivation but not the mandate and funding - ultimately the sufferers are as always the poor 'have-nots'. Far away from their homes and dear ones, the first and only thing that comes to mind in such



a horrendous situation is the natural instinct to "Go-Home", whatever the hurdles and odds are their only aim is to head for home, it is an inexplicable primitive human instinct. But, how to get back? All transportation road and rail is suspended, the situation of this 'Corona Virus' spread is so inhuman, they can not huddle in protective groups and the options open to them are 'zilch' - the lack of shelter, the heat, lack of food, lack of work and income, everything closed

down, no employer support, they are in a limbo. The regulated assistance and facilities are a mirage and so slow and far away.

There is fear on both sides 'giver and receiver' of succor - the situation is beyond human knowledge. Many have children of all ages with them, their ignominy is beyond all measure. How has all this precipitated all over India and in many other nations. Is it the human disparity and absence of concern for the good of the other, the neighbour. The greed - needs all have have, but when few humans corner power and corners 90% of wealth, the materialism causes unbridled 'greed' and the result is the 'super rich' who have no compassion and concern for the 'super poor'.

At this time, in the middle of serious suffering the big question is will the Lockdown be withdrawn on April 14. Indications from the PMO are that it will not in most places, not only is the lockdown and social distancing vital to prevent run away infection of large number of people; but, it is more vital to stagger the number of those needing hospitalisation in the next few months. It is the only way to control the optimum use of hospital facilities in this critical pandemic attack.

This desperate distress is unknown and new every where, in Mangalore Govt authorities too try their best to do something - they have tried to rope in NGO's and social organizations - but without a mandate and due support welfare for large numbers does not take off. This sort of welfare work needs consistent drilling and practice. It is not a surprise that no proper machinery/mechanism is really in place; only cosmetic if any. There is need to go on a war footing and make rapid strides, the suffering of the unorganized/informal labour sector which



is far more populated than the organised is a difficult giant monster to handle. The plight of the suffering is beyond all imagination and too vast. A hungry man can not be tolerant, estimating the huge down turn on the economy and lost potential, plan for a salvation path is unseen now.

The Administration in this area has put in a lot of effort to help, it is not easy to get these people who are not too enlightened even though they are good humans, in to shelters and waiting for the big day or "Achhe Din" with promises. Some NGO's like, local social service groups, Snehalaya, White Doves, various religious groups and so on have been distributing food, food kits and other necessities in the circumstances.



White Doves and Snehalaya has to care for a large number of inmates in their shelters as is known and that it self is a huge task normally - they can not spare resources and staff in this risky circumstance and only the Govt has the power and mandate to provide. Also, there is undercover politics and many private groups are discouraged from doing good work and/or unable to deliver the needed succor - several factors are at play and only a healthy and unbiased clear cut work regulation under a proven leader can bring about a good result. Starting to dig a well once the fire is raging is not going to solve serious matters..

I stand at my window Looking  
down at the streets The streets  
are so silent There's hardly a  
vehicle out there There's hardly a  
soul to be found **We are in  
'LOCKDOWN' mode!**

I look up at the sky I feel the air around me so pure, so clean,  
No dust, no pollution Oh, I can breathe so easily **We are in  
'LOCKDOWN' mode!**

I look at the birds fluttering around the trees  
So happily chirping and singing away, With  
not a care in the world So nice to be free!  
**They are in 'FREEDOM' zone!**

Of a sudden I could sense some message from the  
birds, Are you feeling locked up in your home? Unable to  
move out freely? Cannot do what you wish? Ah! That is  
exactly how we feel When we are in the cage, all locked  
up! **Hey friends, you are now in 'LOCKDOWN' mode!**

I feel so depressed, down in the dumps I pity  
myself, oh, what is this life! And I let out a cry,  
when, oh when, will I be free! Oh God, please,  
**Take me out of this 'LOCKDOWN' mode!**



**Melville X. D'Souza  
- Orlem, Malad West**

## Ronald D'Mello dies due to COVID-19

Mumbai : Ronald D'Mello (60), hailing from Karkala in Mangalore passed away in Riddi Vinayaka Multi Specialty hospital, Nallasopara here, on Sunday, April 5, due to coronavirus (COVID-19) infection.



He was employed in Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, Colaba for the last 40 years as captain. He had celebrated his 60th birthday on March 24. He was to retire at the end of April. He was suffering from kidney ailment for the last several years and was under dialysis in hospital. But he had gone for dialysis to Riddi Vinayaka hospital last week due to lockdown. As he was found to be infected by coronavirus, he was shifted to isolation ward immediately. However, he died without responding to treatment. The officials conducted his final rites on Sunday night.

He was the husband of Marita D'Mello who is a director of Model Bank, Ronald was also a member of Vasai Konkani Association. Model Bank Board of Directors and Vasai Konkani Association office bearers have expressed their condolences to the family of the deceased.

—Ronida

Apropos the article in your esteemed weekly dated 13-19th April, titled TO HANG OR NOT TO HANG, by Ladislaus D'souza, I agree with the writer that the punishment meted out to perpetrators of ghastly crimes like rape, especially of underage children and teenage girls is not commensurate with the magnitude of the crime. Death Penalty defeats the very purpose of punishment being a deterrent and Life Imprisonment in most cases results in commutation with the culprit going scot-free after serving the truncated time in prison. In the meantime, the hapless victims, have to bear the scars of the traumatic experience for a lifetime. The extreme measure proposed by the writer merits attention. As the writer mentioned, many may balk at the idea of castration but there can be no more effective measure to counter this insidious malaise that has eroded the moral fabric of our country.

Justice N Kirubakaran of the Madurai bench of the Madras High Court pronounced a similar extreme measure in a case where a UK national was accused of sexually abusing a boy. His judgement created national headlines and I quote: "Blood curdling, horrific, sadistic, terrifying, shocking, cruel and brutal gang rapes of toddlers in New Delhi, in October 2015, would definitely justify this Court to suggest castration as an additional punishment for child abusers, especially child rapists,"

Subsequent news reports might have omitted a few of the honourable judge's adjectives quoted above but the sentiment was conveyed accurately enough: existing laws are not enough, India must debate and discuss castrating those who sexually abuse children so that it would act as a deterrent to others.

Anticipating the protests that his statement would evoke, particularly on the grounds that it would be a violation of human rights, the Justice goes on to say that though castration might sound barbaric, "barbaric crimes should definitely attract a barbaric model of punishment."

Many have endorsed Justice Kirubakaran's views but there is definitely a need for a groundswell of opinion that will bring the matter in the realm of public debate and lead to suitable amendment to the laws that will bring this about. Until then, depraved men will continue to feed their sadistic urges at the cost of innocent lives.

—Thomas Lobo

## Brief note from Deepak Parekh's Webinar (In the background of Covid-19)

# Current Scenario – Analysis & Business Response

1. Conserve, Cash at all Costs, you will need it for unforeseen circumstances, including another lock down.
2. Make Team A & B. Team A studies prepares current response, and Team B works on situation after two years.
3. You will have to increase wages for some workers to incentivize them to come back. Getting people back will be a problem
4. Travel sector will be hit for a very long time. 2 years plus.
5. 9 Months of this year will be gone in recovery in normalcy in terms of Operations coming back to normal. If there is no other pandemic.
6. Cut Costs, Reduce Salaries, Prune Manpower if needed.
7. Increase equity in the company. Better to be over capitalized is better than to be over leveraged. Being Over leveraged will be a disaster, avoid the debt trap at all costs. Give a discount, let investors make money. Get Private Equity. Singapore Airlines is doing a Rights issue as we speak.
8. Micro finance will be worst hit, amongst NBFCs.
9. Build relationship and trust with the banks. Don't move relationships for a quarter or half a percent.
10. Await announcement for MSME. More incentives and support expected.
11. Real Estate: Land is a state subject, Real Estate Prices will come down by 20% at least Developers who have bought land at high prices will to take a hit on the projects. Many companies will go bankrupt. MCHI – Credai must talk to the Govt for a one time restructuring like in 2008. It will take 8-9 months for things to normalize for Real Estate.
12. Payments from Govt is a big issue. Lot of litigation

### Macroeconomic Factors &

### Risks, Long term Outlook:

1. Govt has agreed to increase Fiscal Deficit which is a good sign. State Govts getting Overdraft facilities from Central Government.
2. Consumer Credit is 13% as a percentage of GDP, where as China is 40% and USA 80%
3. Mortgage to GDP, India: 10%, China: 26%, Thailand 20%, Scandinavia: 90% USA: 70%. India needs to reach the 12-15% mark in the coming couple of years.
4. Yes Bank on Path on recovery, Should have taken part in a similar manner for ILFS and Jet Airways.
5. USA 10 year paper is 0.77%, India is 6%. India is at a BBB (Lowest Investment Grade). If we get graded down we will become a Junk Bond .This will crash the economy. This is also why it will be difficult to print money.
6. Interest rates will go down further, but Banks must pass it on to the company. RBI lends only to the Banks in India and Banks are concerned more about their own Balance Sheet than national interest. RBI must start buying Company Bonds.
7. Middle-East will be in a big trouble. Oil will not go back to 60-70. Oil will be at 40-50.
8. Expect more deglobalization. European countries have already made it mandatory for Govt approval for all acquisition, as companies are available cheap and there is a fear that China may look to take over companies in Europe.
9. Rupee will be under pressure. Look at a minimum 3% depreciation YoY of the rupee even in the best times. We are doing much better at the moment with 10% depreciation (Many are at 25%). Trouble will ensue only if our rating goes to Junk. Our Rating unfortunately has not gone up even in our Best Years of 8% growth. However, Companies are getting good borrowing rates. Exports will have to grow for India to do better. Expect a package for Export soon from the Government.
10. By 2023 390 million people will come into the middle class. Hence invest-

ment will come. Only 2% of Indians are invested in Equity. Equity investors will increase. India Mutual fund to GDP ratio is 12% where as in Mexico etc. are 60% plus and USA 100%. India needs to move to 20%. Rising middle class will lead to more investments in Real Estate and Equity in the long term.

11. Savings rate in India is 17% (Earlier 30%). 10% out of that is in Real Estate or Golds etc. Liquid Savings rate is 7%. People in India are getting used to consumption in India. So there is no stress there. Hopeful that consumption will increase.
12. EPFO should be allowed to invest in equity. They invested in IL&FS and made a loss. So it is more conservative.
13. There is a medicine (Cure) which is under testing in the USA, which hopefully should be out in the market by June end if FDA approves. Vaccine (preventive) will take time.

### Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has launched an initiative to help startups navigate the mounting operational and financial pressures arising from the coronavirus pandemic.

The Covid-19 startup assistance scheme (CSAS) will provide quick working capital loans up to Rs 2 crore to startups whose cash flow and liquidity have been adversely impacted by the pandemic. The loan can also be considered against the startups' GST refunds.

A recommendation committee comprising of five members – three from SIDBI and its nominees and two from venture capital industry - will be created for faster processing of funds. website: <https://www.techcircle.in/2020/04/07/sidbi-launches-covid-19-assistance-scheme-to-ease-startups-working-capital-pain>

# Will Hindus Prove the Depth of Their Own Radicalisation Wrong?

—Don Aguiar.

For someone not inclined towards religion and religious practices, - the exception being the epics and numerous mythological stories which all Indians love, many who are born a Hindu follow usual practices and customs - and enjoy the fun and celebration that festivals bring. But they are unlikely to be found queuing up for a darshan of their favourite deity or even light the agarbatti and pray to the Gods in the little alcove at home. They collect idols of lord Ganesha - yet have never prayed to him. Sounds confusing? Never stopped to think. There are many like them. Life goes on. They are Hindus because they are.

You cannot get into or out of Hinduism. You are born Hindu. You don't choose and God doesn't choose you. The connection always exist, and you just discover it.

The questions being raised about the Hindu religion of late prompted me to try to capture the essence of Hinduism and for that one would have to read the scriptures – of which there are scores – in detail, assimilate them, then produce distilled versions of only some relevant portions.

Hinduism has evolved over millennia – to an extent that it may be unrecognizable in its present form to the ancient sages. Hinduism is remarkably resilient and modified itself based on the need of the times. It even incorporated its offshoots Jainism and Buddhism within itself - a point with which some followers of those religions will dislike and dispute.

The lack of dogmas or mandatory requirements is what makes Hinduism different. Hindus may choose any one of many paths in the search for God or truth is quite acceptable. There is no single book, no single God, no single messiah. The Vedas, Upanishads, Puranas, the epics Ramayana and Mahabharata are all religious books. The idea of acceptance - rather than just tolerance, which was clearly enunciated by Swami Vivekananda is central to principles of Hinduism. There is no single tenet - whether it is food, clothing, or prayer. Plurality, therefore, lies at the heart of Hinduism.

It gave strength to many Hindus to believe that they can continue to be a bona fide Hindu without praying, fasting, or visiting temples. They just have to be a good human

to be a good Hindu.

**However - A growing number of Hindus now speak the insecure and angry language of those willing to discard their own culture, law and the Indian Constitution and succumb to the dark fantasies of Hindu supremacy.** Majoritarian visions, now openly expressed, empowered and normalised as reality, are the armoury from which India's ruling party fashions its arsenal of Hindu supremacist behaviour, from the assaults on India's universities to using a raft of laws, new and old, against Muslims/Minorities.

Caste is most often spoken of as an effective counter to the homogenising impulses of religious polarisation. It is presented as a scheme to preserve diversity. That is a shallow, regressive argument. Diversity needs new imagination.

Only after Modi settled into power did many BJP voters begin to clearly voice their sympathies for Hindutva. These revelations felt sudden and shocking, to the point that you wondered if these voters had silently longed for a pure Hindu nation well before Modi. Relationships ruptured the way they did after Trump's election or the Brexit referendum. Families bickered on WhatsApp groups, and friends fell out. Before 2014, you'd have found a pro-AB-VP student and a pro-left student who were friends with each other. After 2014, that was increasingly difficult.

The attempt to attract all geographical variants of Hinduism with universal Gita, vedas, Sanskrit sholkas and Bollywood music is a 20th century phenomena spearheaded by the Hindutva lobby.

There are more than a billion Hindus in India, and it is not that they are all radicalised, dangerous fanatics. The fundamentalists among the Hindus may not even be a majority. But they are more than they were, and they hold the key to determining the course India will take.

The radicalised, or those they have brow-beaten into submission, now control large swathes of India's unfolding narratives. Hindu-first policies, symbols and feelings are now predominant in politics, in the media, among the judiciary and the police and in public life. The government, now promotes cow shelters, corporate India makes pilgrimages to the bastion of Hindutva in Nagpur and Bollywood crafts movies that demonise Minorities and celebrate – often through fictionalised history – Hindu war-



riors.

The rest of India has not entirely been levelled by the rising storm of Hindu radicalisation. Indeed, it has sparked a rediscovery and reclamation of the flag, the Indian Constitution and poetry of resistance from the younger, violent days of the republic's birth. That is why beleaguered Minorities, have found their voice. That is why teachers and students – of all religions – defy violent Hindu goons and radicalised police forces who disgrace their uniform, the law of the land and the Constitution they have sworn to uphold. That is why a war for the soul of India rages on the streets, in universities, homes, families and WhatsApp groups.

We now have a spineless, politically expedient government lying prostrate before its own men. The difference in 2019 UP and Delhi is that it is the police who prostrate themselves, willingly, because they are overwhelmingly Hindu and more open to the call of religious radicalisation than ever.

In its 72 years as a free country, India has never faced a more serious crisis. Already its institutions – its courts, much of its media, its investigative agencies and its election commission – have been pressured to fall in line with Modi's policies. The political opposition is withered and infirm. More is in the offing: the idea of Hindutva, in its fullest expression, will ultimately involve undoing the constitution and unravelling the fabric of liberal democracy. It will have to; constitutional niceties aren't compatible with the BJP's blueprint for a country in which people are graded and assessed according to their faith. The ferment gripping India since the passage of the citizenship act – the fever of the protests, the brutality of the police, and the viciousness of the politics – has only reflected how existentially high the stakes have become.

The radicalisation template was, of course, created in Narendra Modi's Gujarat, where a rich Hindu can stop a rich Muslim from buying the house next door by filing a case under a "Disturbed Areas Act", meant to keep the communities apart and relegate Muslims to ghettos. The complicity of government officials, police, politicians and judges in the creation of the Hindu rashtra, the Hindu nation, has now gone national, as we have seen in subjugation of the Constitution and the law in reducing Jammu and Kashmir and clearing the Ram temple in Ayodhya.

The RSS got the solution it wanted in Ayodhya as well. Since 1992, a legal battle has raged to determine what should be done with the site of the flattened mosque. In November, the Supreme Court – which appears increasingly pliant to the government's needs – ruled that the mosque had been destroyed illegally, but that the land

should nevertheless host a temple. It was as if a burglar, having been dressed down, was then invited to move into the house he'd robbed. The citizenship act was passed in December. Within half a year, with a speed and brazenness that left India dazed, the government had fulfilled some of the chief items on the RSS wish list.

The protests sweeping India are essentially a fight back, however delayed, against the ongoing process of creating a Hindu nation. Until yesterday, it appeared a foregone conclusion. Today, we are not so sure. The ruling party and its affiliates believe the protests do not have the cachet they appear to have, that half a million people marching on any day are but a fraction of 1.3 billion that almost all Hindu India is with the government. The ruling party and its affiliates believe they can disregard not just the secular consensus and Constitution holding India together but continue the march towards a Hindu nation forged by fear and force.

When a government starts to make the case for some to be considered less Indian than others, subtracting first one identity and then another as if they were Jenga blocks, the structure turns unsteady. Either the union dissolves, or it is kept together only by an iron-fisted, authoritarian regime – the kind that unleashes violence through the police, as in Uttar Pradesh, or through party auxiliaries under police protection, as at JNU. The danger posed by the BJP is that it is both preparing itself to be that regime and guiding India into an instability from which it may never recover.

Institutions of India's liberal democracy need to be strengthened and must assert themselves in defence of the Constitution. Young people have recently reminded the country that freedom is best secured in the custody of enlightened citizens and when it is protected for all. Indeed, the idea of freedom can acquire shape and form in the lives of our people only if they can live as equal citizens under the law.

Somewhere along the line, the institutional response to challenging situations has been found wanting. After all, the cause of human dignity must be our purpose in perpetuity.

The point is, religion is in our faces, either way – we might as well try and resist majoritarian bullying from within. Instead of bending around the BJP and living in fear of this "Hindu voter" who lives to show everyone else their place, non-Hindutva politics and movements can engage deeply with the diversity of religious life and voice progressive values there. It's worth the effort.

Only Hindus can prove this proposition – and the depth of their own radicalisation – wrong. If they do not, we know what awaits.

# What's Good This Friday?

As the Secretary of the Legion of Mary in my parish 51 years ago it was my lot to give a commentary on the Holy Week liturgy. That got me thinking on what was so unique about Jesus' rather "limited" suffering on the cross.

Take the number three. Three temptations in the desert, three years of public ministry at the of 30, in a 30-mile radius. Then three hours on the cross and the Resurrection three days later. Mission accomplished. Jesus has gone back to heaven and we are saved. Simple isn't it?

Over-simplistic answers can be dangerous. Since we have entered into Holy Week, I will limit this reflection to Jesus' last week or days. 51 years ago, I had asked myself what was so special about Jesus' limited redemptive suffering? Surely people in Hitler's concentration camps or battling cancer for years would have had much more physical suffering.

The problem really is that we tend to see Jesus' suffering as merely physical. Even the Stations of the Cross, a pious devotion in the Catholic Church, focusses almost entirely on the physical aspects. Filmmakers go to town trying to portray it as gory as possible, eliciting tears of sorrow from pious viewers. Don't we shed such tears when we see other melodramatic movies? I do. However, Jesus had forewarned against such weeping (cf Lk 23:28).

Unfortunately, filmmakers have little

or no understanding of Jesus' suffering. Even their choice of a blue eyed, blonde, bearded guy with an aquiline nose is easily passed off as Jesus. In India people think that Hrithik Roshan would suit the part admirably; forgetting that Jesus was from a Semitic race with brown eyes and black hair. In a previous article I wrote about the movie, "Jesus Christ Superstar". Now I am reminded of the 1988 movie, "The Last Temptation of Christ", based on the 1955 novel by Nikos Kazantzakis. Even the Malayalam version caused quite a stir in Kerala.



by chhotebhai \*

As with the physical appearance and physical suffering of Jesus, the Last Temptation is even more weird. Filmmakers and even Dan Brown of "The Da Vinci Code" seem obsessed with Jesus' relationship with Mary Magdalene. Here Jesus' last temptation is portrayed as a desire to be with her. Anybody who has interiorised even a little of the life of Jesus will tell you how absurd that assumption is. If at all Jesus had any earthly care while on the cross it was for the other Mary, his mother, whom he commended to the care of his disciple John (cf Jn 19:26). Very few writers have actually dwelt on the last temptation. I shall do so further down the road.

For brevity's sake, I shall begin this reflection from the Garden of Gethsemane. I shall draw extensively from the clinical and forensic research of Dr Pierre Barbet M.D. (1884-1961), former head of the department of surgery, St. Joseph's Hospital, Paris. His findings are recorded in his book, "The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ", published 70 years ago.

Luke, himself a physician, made the observation that "his sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood" (cf Lk 22:44). Luke was writing in the Greek

language, and the word he used was thrombos. Its English equivalent is clot, not drop. Barbet tells us that this phenomenon is known as haematomatosis, caused by intense vasodilatation of the subcutaneous capillaries. These distended capillaries burst when they come into contact with the millions of sweat glands on the skin. The blood and sweat then mingle and coagulate to form clots. This is just one small example from Barbet's scientific study.

Barbet further observes that this haemorrhaging would result in "an enormous fall in vital resistance... this would make the skin very tender, and therefore hypersensitive to the subsequent torture". Barbet did many experiments with cadavers hung on a cross and did a forensic examination of the Shroud of Turin that bears accurate testimony to Jesus' physical pain. The forensic evidence suggests that at the time of scourging, Jesus had his hands tied above him and he was completely naked. There were two scourgers. Each whip had two lead balls attached with a thong. There is evidence of 100-120 strikes from the contused (excoriation) wounds, excluding the superficial bruises. The device used was a flagrum, from which comes the word flagellation.

The thrombosis and haemorrhaging, in particular, point to the interior suffering of Jesus, while the flagellation is indicative of the exterior wounds. The latter is recounted extensively in the Stations of the Cross and the sorrowful mysteries of the Rosary. We tend to gloss over Gethsemane while focussing on the scourging, crowning with thorns and carrying of the cross. This last was done mostly by Simon of Cyrene as Jesus was too weak by then (cf Mat 27:32).

How many of us have reflected on Pilot's reaction when he was told that



(Contd.. from p. 14)

Jesus had died within three hours of his crucifixion (cf Mk 15:44)? This is because the condemned usually died a slow death over three days. Since they were defenceless their eyes would be plucked out by birds of prey, while their genitals were torn off by wild animals. In their desperation to live, they would use their feet to push themselves up to reduce the pressure on their arms and thereby bring some air into their lungs.

Jesus was too weak to do that. Besides he had ascended the cross to die for us, not to live; so there was no incentive for him to prolong his own agony. It is for this reason that Barbet concludes that Jesus died of cramps and asphyxiation within three hours.

This leads us to the next question – the difference between Jesus dying on the cross, and the death of his two co-convicts; or rather the ump-teen slaves or foreigners that were condemned to death by the crucifixion? Other than some of the physical aspects that I have already described, I see three factors in Jesus' suffering that distinguish them from the others.

Firstly, Jesus was innocent. The others were being punished, rightly or wrongly, for their crimes. Jesus had done no wrong (cf Lk 23:16). He was instead taking upon himself the iniquities of us all (cf Is 53:5). The second aspect is that it was voluntary. He laid down his life of his own free will which is why it was pleasing to

the Father (cf Jn 10:17-18). If one is deprived of food and water because there is none, it would be circumstantial. However, if it is placed within one's reach and one willingly abstains or refrains from partaking of it then it becomes a virtue, a redemptive act. That is what Jesus was doing.

The third dimension of his suffering is what I call critical. Everything depends on it. Since we are a cricket crazy nation, I will draw an analogy from the game. When a batsman is practicing in the nets, he swings his bat with non-chalance. However, if he is playing in a World Cup final before millions of fans, the pressure to perform is humongous. If he has to hit a six from the last ball, the stakes are very high. He has to stand and deliver. When he does, the millions erupt in joy. Jesus was not batting for a World Cup. He was battling for the Universal Cup of Salvation. He had to deliver. The odds were insurmountable. He stood alone. The stakes were infinite. He had no choice. He had to take that final plunge, which he did.

This brings me back to Jesus' last temptation. In his first recorded temptation, the evil one tried to kill him before he embarked on his mission (cf Lk 4:1-12). The last temptation was diametrically opposite. He was now trying to stop Jesus from dying. "If you are the Son of God come down from the cross. Save yourself and save others" (cf Mat 27:40). See how cunningly the temptations change according to the circumstances. This is because the enemy knew only too well that if Jesus were to now die, he would rise again.

That would signal the end of sin and death. "O death, where is your victory, O death where is your sting" (1Cor 15:55)?

–Filmmakers are obviously not as smart as the evil one, hence sensationalised their narrative by putting a seductive looking Mary Magdalene into it. Remember that Jesus had to counter these temptations, just as in the desert. Here too the challenge is very attractive. Come down, heal more people, perform more miracles, overthrow the oppressive Roman empire. You will be a hero, the Superstar!

The Father now comes to the rescue of the Son. He allows him to experience abandonment, separation, being forsaken, as would be a sinner without grace. This is why Jesus cries as a Son of Man, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" (cf Mat 27:46). The Holy Spirit then strengthens him to cry out, "It is accomplished" (cf Jn 19:30). "Into your hands I commend my spirit" (cf Lk 23:46). Mission accomplished. "Truly this man was the Son of God" (cf Mk 15:39).

Writing about Jesus' passion and death is always an exhausting experience. But this is no exhaustive piece, for his passion is an unfathomable ocean. Hopefully, it will help us to understand a little bit about what is Good, this Friday.

*\*The writer has developed these thoughts more extensively in his book "Beyond 2000- The Other Side".*

## **PAMELA WADIA**

Meet Pamela Wadia for designs fitted to perfection from simple A-line styles to fabulous Ball Gowns Excellent bead work & Embroidery - Any size or Shape, as per your budget.

### **BRIDAL GOWN**

**BRIDES MAIDS DRESSES  
FLOWER GIRLS DRESSES  
COMMUNION DRESSES  
WESTERN FORMAL WEAR  
READY WEDDING GOWNS ALSO**

**AVAILABLE**

**Mob: 9322277790,**

**www.ready2wed.in**

## **The Temptation Caterers**

### **Perfect Wedding Receptions**

AT Unbeatable & Uncomparable Prices  
Lawns Available for Weddings, Anniversaries all kinds of parties at Andheri (West)

Capacity 50-100 , 500-1000+

**TRESSA D'MELLO**

**9967374315 / 7900039842**

temptationevents@gmail.com

Head Office: Shop No.1&2, Charlie Pereira Compound, Near Raj Laxmi Building, Veera Desai Road, Andheri (W), Mumbai - 400 058.

## **JACK OF ALL STALL**

### **Reliable House for Religious Goods**

**Gloria Church Bldg.,  
263, Dr. Ambedkar Rd., Byculla,  
Mumbai - 400027**

**Tel.: 23725963, 23749358**

Estd: 1951

Prop. B. D'Souza

## The Best Onion Jokes

My wallet is like an onion. Whenever I open it, my eyes tear up.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

Onions are the only vegetables that make you cry.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

What's the difference between an attorney and an onion?

You cry when you slice up an onion.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

I found my dad crying. He said he was chopping Onions.

Onions was our dog.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

Some people say onions are the only vegetables that make you cry.

That's because they've never been hit in the face by a turnip.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

What kind of horse does an onion ride?

A Scallion.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

Did you hear about the family of onions that died?

They will be forever minced.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

What do you get when you cross a Donkey with an Onion?

An ass that will bring you to tears.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

I came up with an idea about how to stop crying while chopping onions. Unfortunately, I've run out of fingers to try it with.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

What's the difference between an onion and a vegetable?

You cry when you chop an onion. The rest of the family cries when you chop up a vegetable.

Onions don't scream when you peel off their skin.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --



### Definition Of Time!



Time is **Slow** when you wait!  
Time is **Fast** when you are late!  
Time is **Deadly** when you are sad!  
Time is **Short** when you are happy!  
Time is **Endless** when you are in pain!  
Time is **Long** when you feel bored!  
Time is Most **Beautiful** when you are in love.

*Every time, time is determined by your feelings and your psychological conditions & not by clocks.*

When I was a kid, our family was very poor. I remember when my dad was cutting onion and the whole family was crying.

Poor onion, he was such a good dog.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

Wanna hear a joke about cutting onions?

It'll have you in tears.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

What kind of socks do you need to plant onions?

A garden hose.

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

One day, two onions, who were best friends, were walking together down the street. They stepped off the curb and a speeding car came around the corner and ran over one of them. The uninjured onion called the ambulance and helped his injured friend as best as he was able. The injured onion was taken to the emergency ward at the hospital and rushed into surgery. After a long and agonizing wait, the doctor finally appeared. He told the uninjured onion, "I have good news, and I have bad news. The good news is that your friend is going to pull through". "The bad news is that he's going to be a vegetable for the rest of his life".

— Jubel D'Cruz, Mumbai

"AND TO YOU WHO DID NOT ACTUALLY GO TO CHURCH BUT WATCHED IT ON TELEVISION, YOU WILL NOT ACTUALLY GO TO HEAVEN—BUT WILL BE ALLOWED TO WATCH IT ON TELEVISION!"



A woman goes to the doctor for her yearly physical. The nurse starts with certain basic items. "How much do you weigh?" she asks. "115" she says. The nurse puts her on the scale. It turns out her weight is 140. The nurse asks, "Your height?" "5 foot 8," she says. The nurse checks and sees that she only measures 5'5". She then takes her blood pressure and tells the woman it is very high. "Of course it's high!" she screams, "When I came in here I was tall and slender! Now I'm short and fat!"

-- \*\*\*\*\* --

# 50 Pearls Of Wisdom

By Thomas Lobo

A REVIEW By  
Ladislau Louis D'Souza

To those familiar with the genial Thomas Lobo of Goregaon, Mumbai, this 56-page book will for sure come as a gem of motivational literature! As in the case of the proverbial merchant in the gospel (cf Mt 13:45), **50 PEARLS OF WISDOM** is a treasure trove to be greatly desired, though of course the reader will certainly not need to go and sell everything he/she has in order to acquire a copy of it!\*

As any seasoned resource person for training programmes is well aware, the introductory exercise is what lays the foundation for a really successful session. And what better way to successfully arrest the attention of the participants than by means of narrating an interesting story or an appropriate case study which in some manner reveals the gist of the content of the course or session in question. Thomas should know better. Actively involved for the last three decades and more as an astute trainer at various levels, he brings to bear on **50 PEARLS OF WISDOM** his acumen at interacting with a cross section of people, be it with college youth or with professionals in the corporate sector, at the parish and the diocesan levels, and on a range of matters and interests. And that is what makes the contents of this book a conversation starter of sorts. Indeed! A quick glance at the well-chosen chapter headings in the 'Contents', touching on *leadership, involvement, service, commitment* and the like, would convince the reader that the author, a key member of the **Laitry Training Centre [LTC]** and an active proponent of the Small Christian Community movement since its inception in India by Bishop Bosco Penha in 1984, means business, be it of a secular or a pastoral nature.

Elegantly simplistic in appearance, each chapter of **50 PEARLS OF WISDOM**, a treasure trove like no other, is in the form of a story, quite often a familiar one, with a brief but very pointed reflection that helps the reader apply the story to his/her daily life, a few questions for discussion further aiding the thought process. As a matter of fact, it is from Thomas' knack for "story-telling" that there germinated the very idea of this book, in the process of reading which, any reader who has heard him speak will recall that the tone of his voice so matches the content of his talk as to have the listener eating out of his hand as it were!

## 50 Pearls Of Wisdom

Pathways To Growth

Faith Reflections For SCCs, Parish Associations And Faith Gatherings



Thomas Lobo

In conclusion it may be pointed out that the trick to benefitting fully from all of the 50 PEARLS OF WISDOM in this book, in terms of enriching one's faith and stimulating the process of one's personal growth, lies in this: returning periodically to different chapters in a different frame of mind to find in each story a reflection that enthuses anew and is convincing enough to bring out the pithiness of the message that impacts one's day-to-day living and more importantly, one's relationship with God, family and community. Now, who would want to miss out on the scintillating effect of the glow of wisdom of a given pearl in action!

*\*For copies at the subsidized rate of Rs 50 each, available at LTC, Marol, Andheri East, please contact: Michael Rodrigues 9820530374 or Thomas Lobo 9820025853*

# Indian Social Behaviour v/s Government Action

by Don Aguiar

**As many as 25 percent of people infected with the new coronavirus may not show symptoms. This helps explain how rapidly this virus continues to spread across the country.**

**The high level of covert spreads about as easily as flu. With any vaccine still in early development the best way to mitigate the pandemic is social distancing. Because people may be passing the virus onto others even when they are feeling fine. Asking only unwell people to stay home is unlikely to be enough.**

In all probability, officials of my poor-rich India, suspended somewhere between feudalism and religious fundamentalism, caste and capitalism ruled by far right Hindu nationalists never expected the virus to hit India, and that too by mid-March. They never thought of any reason to put a curb on any events and create a problem that could cost their political bosses dearly.

The virus began to take a vicious turn in northern India only in the first week of March. By then, many celebrations and gatherings by the thousands had already been in progress. It may not be an exaggeration to say that millions are now at high risk of being afflicted by the virus as many people from these celebrations and gatherings could still be on the move which include the forced exodus of migrant workers brought about by the sudden and unplanned lockdown declared by the government.

India has a dozen or more people staying in one small room making it very difficult to comply with government instructions of social distancing to contain the coronavirus. This is causing it to spread so quickly that officials are considering blockading entire communities to protect the wider population.

Experts attribute the proliferation in certain areas to overcrowding and large families, deep distrust in state authorities, ignorance of health risks among religious leaders, an aversion to electronic and secular media that they believe is mandated by religious law, and a zealous devotion to a way of life centered on communal activities.

All of which adds up to stiff resistance to heeding social distancing orders that require people to stay home except for vital errands and prohibit meeting in groups including for prayer. These rules threaten fundamental activities of orthodox communities.

We can't assume that any of us are not potential vectors at any time. This is why even though I'm feeling great and have felt great and haven't been exposed to anybody with any symptoms of anything, that's why it would be irresponsible of me to go out and about today.

The Indian Prime Minister Modi ordered a twenty one day lockdown to be effective in a matter of hours urging people to distance themselves socially and work from home. But social distance means hunger for many in India, with a work force heavily dependent on manual labour. It would be an unheard-of-luxury for the rag picker or the street vendor who lives day to day.

Lockdown we were. The prime ministers method definitely gives the impression that he thinks of citizens

as a hostile force that needs to be ambushed, taken by surprised but never trusted.

Thousands of daily wage workers who became jobless because of the immediate lockdown are walking to their villages from cities like New Delhi and Mumbai. To try to stem the influx of infections, the government clamped down on their borders as well as the respective states borders.

In just a weeks' time the lives of millions of Indians have been turned upside down. Many who have lost their jobs worry about paying their bills.

There really isn't any option for people. They are told not to show up for work, so what to do? But unlike natural disasters, the pandemic has hit a far greater swath of people hard, making it difficult for some to gin up for help.

In its unsparing breadth, the crises is pitting two ideals against each other – the e pluribus Unum credo of solidarity and it's near – religious devotion to the idea of hard work brings rewards. Those notions coexist peacefully in prosperous times. Today both are put to the test, forcing the newly unemployed to re-evaluate beliefs about themselves and their country.

As officials debate when they might reopen the shuttered sectors of the country, it is unclear how the government is tallying the potential benefits and costs – financially and in human lives – of competing timetables for action. If you look at the resilience of the economy to a public health threat, certainly we have much bigger threats than the coronavirus.



(Contd.. from p. 18)

About 80 percent of India's 470 million workers are in the informal sector, lacking contracts and unprotected by labour laws. Many are manual labourers in the field, factories and streets of India.

Here are two stories of how people are making ends meet as the economy grinds to halt with the coronavirus pandemic. India reported 1024 cases and 27 dead as of Sunday -

A Sadhu walking barefoot along Delhi's deserted streets, his saffron coloured clothing stained and tattered, said that he had not eaten in two days. He makes his living everyday by offering prayers to people on the street. He said that he had never gone hungry a day in his life and had always found a meal in a Hindu temple but they have closed since the lockdown started last week.

He was frustrated with the government's lack of planning for the destitute like him. He does not have a house to practise social distancing. He goes from place to place, temple to temple, to eat and sleep. But the entire Bharat is closed.

In all his decades of walking across India, he had never seen India so paralyzed. In every crises the temples were all open and they were able to feed themselves and find shelter. He has never seen this panic in his entire life.

Sweeping leaves and trash off a deserted street in Mumbai and dumping them into her cart the street sweeper said the absence of the normal cacophony of Mumbai was glorious but eerie.

She is the sole breadwinner for her six children after her husband died eight years ago and her eldest son laid off from his tech job last week because of the lockdown.

The lockdown has affected public transportation and she now has to

walk two hours to go to work. Even if the streets are empty she has to come to work, she does not have the pleasure of staying home. The government has not provided her with gloves or mask for her job. But one of her daughters has given her a mask to protect against the virus.

Indian social behaviour always remains the totality of ignorance, insensitivity, poverty and arrogance and the government being clueless on how best to deal with this virus has relied heavily on their right wing ideology and got Prime Minister Narendra Modi to keep Indians engaged in the fight against Covid-19 with spiritual appeals.

The first time PM Modi addressed the nation he had no road map to ease people's pain, their burdens, and their financial anxieties. Instead he ordered all citizens to come out on their balconies to clap hands, ring bells and bang pots and pans to salute health workers and drive out the evil spirit. Not surprisingly the request met with great enthusiasm. There was pot-banging matches, community dances and processions. Not much social distancing. In the days that followed BJP supporters threw cow-urine drinking parties.

Just a feel-good moment curated by India's Prime Minister! Coronavirus increased.

And even when the virus proliferates, who could not be thrilled by the swell of birdsong in the city, peacocks dancing at traffic crossings and the silence in the skies?

We all thought he would talk serious this second time...

He will talk about ventilators, about mask and safety of doctors and nurse, about lakhs of labour who are out on the street..., about food for lakhs of hungry people, about hospitals..., about the new test centres that are going to open..., about free test kits, about falling businesses..... No vision of the future or sharing the issues he is

weighing in deciding about the post-lockdown. The public will be happy to oblige – but what does the PM intend to do himself after the current lockdown comes to an end?

Alas.! What he talked was - "9 baje raat me, diya tere hath me" which symbolizes that "we have to move towards the light from the darkness created by the coronavirus. The request met with great enthusiasm. There was crackers lit, community dances and merriment resulting in fire at many places. Not much social distancing this time too.

The PM's appeal is like praying to God for his help and seeking his blessings but doing nothing to get rid of the problem as an appalled world watched. India revealed herself in all her shame – her brutal structural, social and economic equalities, her callous indifference to suffering.

Sad, disappointing. What a waste of time! Entertainment during lockdown. Words as balm and people have fallen for it and lost their brains.

There is often a debate on the present merits of Chinese communism and liberal democracy in India, however faulty the latter might be. It is generally accepted that communist China has provided its citizens with better health services and more food and clothes than democracy has done in India.

With its often callous approach to citizens' welfare and high political sensitivity, Indian democracy fails to inject elements of self-discipline and social regulation. Indian social behaviour always remains the totality of ignorance, insensitivity, poverty and arrogance.

As discussions rage, the unseen virus continues to spread to the community stage or stage 3. How many lives will be lost in India is anybody's guess.

# Royal Christian Family MATRIMONIALS - GROOMS

**6916. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1986), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 84 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. Mechanic, working as an Engineer in the Oil Industry. working as an Engineer in Major MNC Company. Contact email : treasa542000@gmail.com

**6904. MUMBAI :** Converted Roman Catholic issueless Divorcee, (Born in April 1971), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 76 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., MBA, working as a Territory Manager. Contact email : sudeeptalukdar2003@gmail.com

**6940. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in November 1984), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 73 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. SSC, working in MAURITIUS a Screen Printing Machine Operator in Textile Company. Contact email : ryanfernandes84@gmail.com OR 9819353213

**6862. MUMBAI :** Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in February 1983), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 72 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., well settled working in Mumbai. Contact email : keith\_peter1983@yahoo.co.in

**7034. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in June 1988), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.C.A., Software Engineer, working as an Software Engineer, Asst. Manager (IT), Only Sonm seeks alliance from Mangalorean RC Spinster, educated, working in Mumbai. Reply with full details & photofraph to email : ID : vivian1548@gmail.com Mobile : 9096141335

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Telephone no. of candidate will be printed only with the consent of members.

For Tel. Nos. Please contact:

+91- 9820473103 / 9820485389 or

Email : royalchristianfamily@gmail.com

**6856. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in September 1973), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 67 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA, working as a HR. Contact email : clifforddsilva@yahoo.co.in

**6531. POONA :** Tamilian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in May 1975), Ht. 6', Fair Complexion, Handsome, Edn. M.Com., Having well established business. Contact email : tony137@rediffmail.com

**6707 MUMBAI :** Goan RC bachelor, (Born in June 1975), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 70 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., having own business. Seeks a Family oriented girl. Contact email : maxabreo@yahoo.com / maxabreo@vsnl.net

**6250. MUMBAI :** East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in January 1974), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 76 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Manager. **Contact email : cardoz.clint@gmail.com OR 9833563182**

**5996. MUMBAI :** RC Bachelor (Born in November 1974) / 5'8", B.E., working in Senior position reputed IT firm. Seeks alliance from R.C. spinster educated good family background Pl. reply with photograph and details to keithcardozo@hotmail.com OR 9820338755

**6198. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC (Born in October 1969), Ht. 5' 10", Edn. B.Com., good personality, hailing from God fearing, cultured family, issueless, divorcee by mutual consent, working for Cruise Liner in U.S.A., as Security Supervisor, well settled in Mumbai, Seeks suitable match. Contact email : dsouzamalcolmneil@gmail.com

Phone/SMS 09480157258.

**6485. MUMBAI:** North Indian R.C. Bachelor, (Born in October 1974), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complex-

ion, Edn. B.Com., working for an MNC in Mumbai as Back Office Executive. Contact email : awr88@rediffmail.com

**6228. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor (Born in December 1972). Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 65 kgs., Wheatish Complexion, Edn. S.S.C. A/C Tech. Course, working as a A/C. Technician in Voltas. Contact email : lawrencedias321@gmail.com / Mob: 8291056939

**6172. MUMBAI :** Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in February 1978), Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 86 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., Position : Financial Consultant. Seeks a alliance from RC graduate/pst graduate spinster. Contact email: raceangelreb@yahoo.in

**6508. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor (Born in October 1986), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 80 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E.. working as a Asst. Manager in German Company. Seeks a tall, well educated homely Mangalorean girl. Contact email : colind.3010@gmail.com

**6573. VALSAD :** Goan / Mangalorean RC Bachelor, (Born in February 1986), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 68 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. Mechanical, working as a project engineer in SAUDI ARABIA seeks a well quified girl from a good family background. Contact email :

ian.roshan.dsouza@gmail.com

**6664 MUMBAI :** Mangalorean R.C. Bachelor (Born in December 1982) Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 68 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., A.C.A., LLB., C.A. by Profession. Contact email: saldanha\_ryan@yahoo.com OR 9820670158.

**Please renew your subscription if expired. Mention your subscription no. while sending the renewal amount**

**Address your replies to :**  
Regd. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
**ROYAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY,**  
99, Perin Nariman Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor,  
Fort, Mumbai - 400 001.

## To Place Your Matrimonial Advertisement Call:

**+91 - 9820485389 or 9820473103**

\* Check your email at least once a week.

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

# Royal Christian Family MATRIMONIALS - BRIDES

## MATRIMONIAL

**7128. MUMBAI :** Affluent business family R.C. East Indian Spinster, (Born in April 1988), Ht. 5' 2", very beautiful and pretty. Edn. MS General Surgeon, Doctor by profession. Contact email : drvd2019@gmail.com

**7063. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1993), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Intert CA. working as a Fiancee. Contact email : eshitapais@yahoo.co.in / paischarlie@yahoo.com

**7056. MUMBAI :** Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1988), Ht. 4' 11", Wt. 51 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA in HR, working HR Field. Contact email : nancyfernandes9@gmail.com

**7062. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1992), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA in Finance, working as an Accounting and settlement. Contact email : glenna.dsilva@gmail.com

**7048. MUMBAI :** Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1989), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 52 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Masters in Social Work, working for an NGO. As a Manager. Contact email : saviomay89@gmail.com

**7051. NEWZEALAND :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in

## MATRIMONIAL

**6741 Mumbai :** Mangalorean RC Spinster 26 years, 5' 3", Doctor, Qualification : MD. Very fair and beautiful. Belongs to an affluent business family. Email : sona68500@gmail.com

October 1991), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. LLB., Mumbai University, studing and working towards Newzealand Lowyer Registration. Contact email : mjbnewzealand18@gmail.com

**7046. MUMBAI :** East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1986), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 54 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., / 7 Level German, working as Sr. Associate German a/cs. in Multinational Bank. Contact email : fernweh.stan@gmail.com

**7044. DUBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in February 1991), Ht. 5' 11", M.Com Finance & Accounts working in Dubai invite alliance from well settled bachelors. Kindly reply with full details and photographs to email : waltercb@hotmail.com or whatsapp on 00971506245183

**7037. MUMBAI :** Gujarati Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in June 1979), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 63 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. T.Y.B.A., Mumbai University, working as a Frant Office. Contact email : lisamacwan3@gmail.com

**7043. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean based in **DUBAI** Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1988), Ht. 5' 7", Graduate in Hospitality Management from Mumbai University working in **UAE** invite alliance from well settled Bachelors. Kindly reply with full details and photographs to email : udyavar99@hotmail.com OR Whats app 9930527227

**7036. USA :** Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1991),

## MATRIMONIAL

**7126. U.S.A. :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1992) from Mumbai, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. (Computers) from Mumbai, M.S. (Information Systems) from US. Possesses H1B visa and is working as a Technical Analyst with a MNC in USA. Contact email : wilfyjoy1315@gmail.com or call +91 98603 02527 / + 91 9970172527

Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. (E & T/C), M.S. (Tech. & Mgt.), working as a Strategic Consultant. Contact email : veronicadsouza27@gmail.com

**7033. U.S.A. :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1991), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 62 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Tech USA., working as a Business Developer. Contact email : vio.ban65@gmail.com

**7035. MUMBAI :** Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1988), Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., Post Graduation Diploma in Tourism, Working as a Manager. Contact email : louizad2002@yahoo.com

**7030. JAIPUR :** Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1987), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 85 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.A. in English & B.Ed., Teacher by profession. Contact email : jennifer27nov@gmail.com

**Registered members can publish their ad in all the 50 issues in a year for Rs. 8000 only.**

If you wish to publish your matrimonial classified advertisement in all the 50 issues in a year, you can do so for an amount of Rs. 8000 only.

**To Place Your Matrimonial Advertisement Call:**

**+91 - 9820485389 or 9820473103**

\* Check your email at least once a week.  
\* Members are requested to inform us when they are settled, so that publication of their details can be discontinued.

## MATRIMONIAL

**7066. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in June 1987), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 78 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E., (EXTC) M.S. (International Business Management), working as a Consulting Manager. Contact email : 12018anselm@yahoo.com

**Royal Christian Family  
Helps In Choosing  
The Right Life-Partner  
Serving Since 39 Years**

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Telephone no. of candidate will be printed only with the consent of members.

For Tel. Nos. Please contact:  
+91- 9820473103 / 9820485389 or  
Email : royalchristianfamily@gmail.com

# Pandemic may speed up change in the Church

The coronavirus pandemic is changing just about everything.

That is clearest in the people who sicken, those who die, those whose lives are upended, those whose livelihood has disappeared. These are some of the direct effects of the disease.

There are many other effects not directly related to the illness that are manifesting themselves in the context of the pandemic. One major one is the proliferation of anti-scientific “theories” of the “truth” behind the scourge.

So, some people convinced that spread of the virus is aided, if not caused, by telecommunications equipment have burned internet transmission towers in the UK. An archbishop in Sri Lanka without presenting any evidence has advanced the “theory” that the virus was created by researchers.

Conspiracy theorists are working overtime to find any unreason at all that in their minds refutes what research and expertise have repeatedly demonstrated.

Other trends that had already been moving through societies at various speeds have accelerated while those societies are preoccupied. Racist and anti-democratic movements in societies and governments have advanced their objectives in Europe, the United States and elsewhere.

The Catholic Church, too, is undergoing a great change under pressure from the present situation. Some of that change was already underway but may now accelerate. It remains to be seen where it leads.

For decades, the decline in the number of priests has been obvious to us all. The answer until now has been for leaders in the Vatican, where there is a surplus of priests but a shortage of laity, to call for more prayer and sacrifice.

Clearly God’s answer to those prayers and sacrifices has been, “No.”

In the meantime, in much of the world, Catholics do not have access to the Eucharist. Is that God’s fault, or is it ours for not heeding God’s answer?

Now, because the pandemic has required the cancellation of liturgical gatherings in much of the world, we are experiencing what many Catholics, such as those in Amazonia, have experienced for years and which is the obvious future for the whole world. We are no longer able to gather in presbyter-led liturgies as we have known them for centuries.

Ordaining married men, allowing ordained men to marry, ordaining “second-career” persons, importing clerics from other countries, ordaining women — none of these steps, whether possible or not, will stop the inevitable future of a Church without priests as we have known them.

We are beginning to find ways to celebrate our faith without being together in a building, forced to that creativity by the pandemic.

The least creative response has been to either livestream or videotape Masses, turning them into spectator events like football matches or the unrestored pre-Vatican II liturgy. Even if it might satisfy some, months (as seems likely) of tuning into the “Father So-and-so Show” will eventually produce a drop in the ratings. Liturgy is not a spectator sport. The word itself means “activity of the people.” People will find other programs and tune out.

Unplanned for, unexpected and perhaps even undesired, the approaching end of the cultic priesthood has been accelerated by our present situation.

Catholics are beginning to find new ways to share faith with each other, a search we must believe is inspired by the Holy Spirit who will not leave us bereft of the opportunity to gather in the name and real presence of the Lord.

It remains to be seen what forms that will take. The longer the present situation lasts, the more likely it is that the Spirit

will provoke various responses.

Our new digital age of communications offers ways for communities to gather across vast distances. Someone in East Africa can worship with others in Scandinavia, South America and Oceania.

Obviously, sharing the Eucharist will mean something different from what has been the norm. Breaking bread and sharing the cup may take place simultaneously, though not in the same location. In that case, the declaration that the bread and wine are the Body and Blood of the Lord will take place in the “gathered” community, not relying upon a cleric who may not be “there.”

The vocation we have known as priesthood will, whether we like it or not, fade. That is one thing we must learn, however reluctantly, from God’s refusal to give us the sort of cultic figures we either beg for or demand. Covid-19 may be accelerating a process that has already begun in various ways in various places.

That process is unlikely to be completed before this pandemic becomes history and things return more or less to status quo ante. But it has been accelerated. Attitudes, expectations and experiences will have changed. So, what would have taken two or three generations may do so in one or two.

I am not advocating this, nor bemoaning it. I know that my opinions and wishes one way or the other have no effect upon the inevitable. So, my wishes and your wishes one way or the other are irrelevant. The future will happen whether we like it or not.

That is one more thing the new coronavirus is reminding us.

*Father William Grimm is the publisher of UCA News and is based in Tokyo, Japan. The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official editorial position of UCA News.*

# The Lockdown

*When dark clouds covered the earth with abrupt darkness,  
With fear, doubts and the desperation of a helpless mankind  
When the power that created you and me, stilled the cycle  
Of our destruction, greed and life came to a sudden standstill  
The weakening Faith turned to the only hope, source of love,  
Fountain of mercy and courage, seeking peace and restoration  
And the Lord poured out his mercy on mankind!*

*As times roll by, the laws of the universe fill man with fear  
Human restlessness builds up, the world comes to its knees  
The might of the unseen enemy threatens survival  
But through that rugged cross on a faraway hill,  
The savior gives us his ALL, dying he destroys my death,  
Rising he restores me to life, the sign of the Father's love  
And God blessed his children with mercy!*

*The Lord gives his people Strength!  
When the shadows of sorrow grow to overcast courage,  
Fear takes hold, doubts cloud the mind, Faith weakens,  
I hasten to count my blessings in gratitude, for I have been spared!  
When storms threaten, I think of HIM and I am given strength  
And courage floods my soul, the Spirit lifts me up  
Because the Lord has blessed me with strength!*

*The Lord gives his people Hope  
Parting the cover of gathering gloom, whispering hope appears  
On the wings of a spring, Earth springs up with new life.  
In the thousand shades of green in the nooks of dead branches,  
Star-sequined blue skies lit with the hues of dazzling sunsets!  
The scented air singing softly around me, blows my fears away  
Plaintive call of the cuckoo rings a note of joyous hope  
Melody of the earth rises again as dew to my dryness  
Proclaiming the good news that God gives his people hope!!  
God gives his people hope!  
He who walked on the waters, fed the hungry thousands  
Will also still the storms in my life, calm the threatening waves  
For he has walked with me, every step of the way,  
And now he will walk me from the valley of death to a new life,  
He rose again! Because he lives, all my fear is gone!  
He holds the future in his hands and life is worth living  
For my Risen Lord fills me with Peace, Love, Hope and Strength!*



*by Vera Alvares*

# ROYAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY

Christian Match-makers For Over 38 Years

*Good Proposals*

Wide Choices of Christian  
Brides and Grooms Available

Many are happily married

Our exclusive concentration on Christian Match-making  
with our wide experience brings in regular information on  
Prospective Brides and Grooms.

Bio-data - details of prospective Brides and Grooms are  
provided at the time of registration.

Further, new entries are provided through the periodical:  
The Secular Citizen and Email

We cater to Christians of all Denomination,

Catholics, Protestants and others

Christians from all over India and Indians abroad



## ROYAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY

99, Perin Nariman Street, (Bazargate Street),  
1st Floor, (Nr. GPO), Fort, Mumbai 400001.

Tel.: +91 9820485389 / 9820473103

Email: [royalchristianfamily@gmail.com](mailto:royalchristianfamily@gmail.com)

Website: [www.royalchristianfamily.com](http://www.royalchristianfamily.com)



Secving the community since 38 Years

# GOOD PROPOSALS FOR HAPPY MARRIED LIFE

Choice from Brides/Grooms registered with us :

## SILVER - Basic Service:

Rs. 2000/-

Profile list from the data-bank for wider choice.  
Matrimonial Ad. published 12 times (once a month) in The Secular Citizen  
Profile uploaded on our website www.royalchristianfamily.com  
Period of Service one year.

## BRONZE - Special Service:

Rs. 8000/-

Profile list from the data-bank for wider choice  
Matrimonial Ad. published 50 times (once a week) in the Secular Citizen  
Profile uploaded on our website www.royalchristianfamily.com  
Period of Service one year.

## GOLD - Super Service:

Rs. 15,000/-

Profile list from the data-bank for wider choice  
Matrimonial Ad. published 50 times (once a week) in the Secular Citizen  
Profile uploaded on our website www.royalchristianfamily.com  
We, independently approach to your matching profiles/choices on your behalf  
Period of Service one year

## PLATINUM - Confidential Service:

Rs. 25,000/-

Details on request

Cheques, Drafts, should be in favour of  
**ROYAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY.**

Cheques outside Mumbai are not acceptable.

Bank details for **NEFT** payment :

Account Name: Royal Christian Family

Current A/c No. 500700300005449

ISFC code: VIJB0005007

Bank & Branch: Vijaya Bank, Fort Branch, Mumbai

- \* Members details are circulated through our main list and through 'The Secular Citizen'.
- \* Bio-data, details of Grooms will be circulated among Brides and Brides among Grooms.
- \* Additional expenses such as postage, Telephone calls, etc. will be charged extra.
- \* Matrimonial bio-data/Choices are normally published under Box No. without revealing member's identity.
- \* We shall offer you the service for a period of one year which can be renewed thereafter.
- \* Every member's identity will be treated as utmost confidential.
- \* We can approach your desired Brides/Grooms on your behalf.
- \* Existing details of Brides/Grooms will be provided immediately on registration
- \* Personal Data/Registration Form once submitted becomes property of 'Royal Christian Family' which is non returnable.

**THE SECULAR CITIZEN**

A WEEKLY FAMILY FAVOURITE

29th Year of Regular Publication

Subscription rate:

In India One year **Rs. 500** and

for five years **Rs. 2000**

Largest Christian Readers all over India & Abroad



Print & Digital Editions

Popular  
Konkani  
Weekly

25th Year  
of Regular  
Publication

# ROYAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY

99, Perin Nariman Street, (Bazargate Street), 1st Floor, (Nr. GPO) Fort, Mumbai - 400 001

Name Mr./Miss \_\_\_\_\_

First

Middle

Surname

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_

Male/Female \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Present Business/Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Designation \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly Income \_\_\_\_\_ M. Tongue \_\_\_\_\_

Education \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Star \_\_\_\_\_

Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Complexion \_\_\_\_\_

Bachelor/Spinster/Widow \_\_\_\_\_

Joint Family (Yes/No) \_\_\_\_\_ Sisters \_\_\_\_\_ Brothers \_\_\_\_\_

Native Place \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Please State: Goan/Mangalorean/East Indian/Anglo-Indian/Keralite/Tamilian/Telugu/  
Assamease/or any other \_\_\_\_\_

Please State your Denomination: Roman Catholic/Syrian Catholic/Marthomite/  
Protestant/Jacobite/CSI/CNI/or any other \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_ Caste \_\_\_\_\_ Religion \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Your behavioral Nature/Activities/Hobbies/Interests/Ambitions etc.

\_\_\_\_\_

1. Please mention whether publicity of your bio-data is to be made with your name and address/or under Box No. \_\_\_\_\_
2. You may also send separate text of your choice for publicity (Subject to editing)
3. Name and address will be treated as CONFIDENTIAL

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Regn. Amt. Rs : \_\_\_\_\_ Paid by NEFT / Cash / Cheque /DD No \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Bank \_\_\_\_\_ as service charges for \_\_\_\_\_ Year/s \_\_\_\_\_

Make All Payments in favour of : **ROYAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY.**

PHOTO  
Any Size  
Do not affix  
attach it.



## Use Medicated Mosquito Net for an Undisterbed Sound Sleep



- Medicated mosquito net.
- You can wash 20 times.
- You can use for 3-5 years.
- Manufactured as per WHOPES specification.
- No smell, no taste, any one can use.
- Available in Single & Double size -small, Medium and Large size.
- Safe for All.
- Provides long lasting protection against mosquitos and other insects.

**Sleep Naturally -  
no coil, no liquid, no chemical sprays -  
only medicated mosquito net. use it for years**

*For Orders:*

**Call: 091 - 9820485389**

**WhatsApp: 091 - 9820485389**

**Email : [secular@sezariworld.com](mailto:secular@sezariworld.com)**