

# THE SECULAR CITIZEN

A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY

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Lift up  
your  
Hearts  
in  
Praise!



# The Significance of Easter – the Season of Joy

by Irwin Almeida

The true meaning of Easter is explained as God's merciful love for mankind, because without the sacrificial self-giving of Jesus there could never be the Resurrection.

Yet, the first Preface of of Lent reads: "Each year you give us this joyful season (of Lent) when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed.", As we know it, Lent is supposed to be a time of sorrow, sacrifices and joylessness, in preparation for Easter morn, but the Church tells us the contrary. Could the Church be wrong; not likely when we consider it in the light of the "paschal mystery" which gives significance to the life-death-resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Lent is a time of preparation for the glorious Resurrection celebrated on Easter Sunday. The period of Lent which commences on Ash Wednesday, brings 40 days of penance, fasting and abstinence before climaxing with Easter. In earlier times, this period was rigorously observed as a time of "sack cloth and ashes", and marriages too were never celebrated between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday.

All the feasting was done on the preceding Sunday, loosely called "Fat Sunday", and that weekend meant a time for festivities including fancy carnivals. This pre-Lent Carnival showing dancers depicting various aspects of life, paraded the City streets, often ending in wild orgies. This kind of Carnival was introduced in Goa by the Portuguese and became a tradition; now it is portrayed as a tourist attraction. This pre-Lent Carnival is still held in Portugal and some South American countries, notably Brazil where Rio de Janeiro has been hosting this annual festival since 1723. It takes place before the start of Lent and attracts more than two million attendees.

Now, coming back to Easter, and



how the word was derived: The oldest words we know tend to be about things that have not changes through history — things that humans have always needed to name. While the idea of Easter is not prehistoric, the word it comes from is..

This word goes back to the very beginnings of indo-European languages with "aus – 'east, dawn, shining light". So important was the rising of the sun that prehistoric peoples worshipped a dawn-goddess whom they called "Austron". In old English this became "Eastre" and she was celebrated in spring when new leaves appeared on trees. It is most likely that Christianity adopted this word for its celebration of Christ's rising after his crucifixion.

Adopting the spring festival of this dawn-goddess made sense for Christianity with the parallel symbolism of dormant trees coming back to life and the re-birth of Christ. But, in some countries, Easter is celebrated in autumn when trees lose their leaves. Like some other festivals, when people from the northern hemisphere migrated to the south, they kept the month of their festivals rather than the seasons.

And that's not the end of the symbolism. The Easter egg is similarly

a symbol of new life; the hot-cross bun bears the symbol of the crucifix – and the Easter bunny? Well it would be hard to find a cuddly mammal with a birth rate superior to the rabbit!

Then there is the commercial side of festivals. In Australia, this year hot-cross buns made an unseemly entry when they were put up for sale in some supermarkets little more than a couple of weeks after Christmas.

On the other hand, it is interesting to know that in 1592 Queen Elizabeth I issued a decree making it illegal to sell hot-cross buns on any day but Good Friday, Christmas Day and for serving at burials – such was the reverence for this doughy delight. Thankfully, today hot-cross buns can be enjoyed over a much longer period.

Easter is a fantastic celebration enjoyed around the world with different countries observing their own traditions. To mention a few:

Brazil holds a Rio Carnival, in Rio de Janeiro. It kicks off over Easter when a metre-long parade moves through the streets as one big colourful party. They wish each other "Happy Easter" in Portuguese with 'Feliz Pascoal'.

In China hundreds of years ago, eggs were painted red during spring festivals. 'Happy Easter' in Chinese is 'Fu Huo Jie Kuai Le'.

In Egypt, children decorate eggs with many different colours. They do this delicately as they silently compete to make the prettiest egg. They wish 'Happy Easter' in Arabic thus 'Fish Sa Id'.

In France, children celebrate Easter with a competition where they throw eggs up into the air and catch them. Those who drop their eggs are

(Contd.. on p. 4)

## Thought for the week

*Let the resurrection joy lift us from loneliness and weakness and despair to strength and beauty and happiness.*

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Cover : Easter Greetings

## Indians Are More Depressed?

Is there more suicide and depression in India these days and, for that matter, across the rest of the globe? Possibly. The World Health Organization reports that suicide rates have increased 60 percent over the past 50 years, most strikingly in the developing world, and that by 2020 depression will be the second most prevalent medical condition in the world.

Extreme weepiness and severe melancholy are not the only calling cards of depression, a serious mental disorder that roughly affects 10% of the population.

Doctors say the symptoms could be subtler or of a lower degree — a sudden habit of rash driving, making mean observations or even showing perpetual irritability.

Depression is one of the biggest public health challenges because of its high incidence. "Research worldwide, including in India, suggests that at least one in five women and one in 10 men suffers from major depressive disorder at some time in their lifetime. Imagine you are walking on the street and there could be so many people in front of you who suffer from some degree of depression," said Dr Shamsah Sonawalla, consultant psychiatrist at Jaslok Hospital, Pedder Road.

"Depression can have several symptoms. People who suffer from excessive exhaustion, snap easily, have difficulty in concentrating, conduct recurrent miscommunication, obsessively need to rush home after work or are preoccupied with gadgets or are continuously putting down colleagues on mails and social media could be depressed to some extent," said psychiatrist Dr Harish Shetty.

He believes depression has become such an epidemic that people in high-risk jobs may soon be screened or counselled for depression as a rule. The problem is that very few admit to needing help. Said Dr Vishal Sawant, who heads the psychiatry department at civic-run Cooper Hospital in Juhu, "At present, people with corporate jobs don't like to reveal that they suffer from depression. They worry that they may be stigmatized at work or overlooked for promotions."

Doctors say families and friends can help by noticing any sudden change in appetite, hobbies or sleeping patterns. "If a person stops doing what he or she previously liked doing, like an avid reader being unable to read any more, it could be a sign of depression. Depression can bring about subtle changes ever so slowly that many people miss it until much later. In fact, some people trace depression back to their childhood, saying they always felt low as far as they can remember," says a psychiatric Doctor.

# Spring Forth – to New Life !



BY MELVILLE X. D'SOUZA

**W**e have been through Forty days of Lent – fasting, abstinence, etc., etc. We have walked with Jesus through the Fourteen Stations of the Cross, Friday after Friday during the period of Lent. We probably had tears in our eyes while going through the stations just as the women of Jerusalem were weeping while Jesus struggled along the way. More so, when Jesus was crucified on the cross and then taken down from the cross and the lifeless body of Jesus handed over to his mother.

We must have been filled with sorrow while going through the Three hours of Agony, meditating on the Seven last words of Jesus. Maybe we could feel the pain and agony when Jesus cried out from the cross, “My Lord, My God, why have you forsaken me.” Then, when Jesus cried out “It is Finished.” It was the end of the journey, the end of all suffering Jesus had to undergo. It was the end, or so it seemed.



sad for Jesus. It was the end – the end of Jesus’ life. **But then once again, as promised, Jesus springs forth and rises up on the third day, in glory from that Tomb.**

At spring time, we see buds begin to bloom, plants start to grow

again and flowers begin to blossom. Nature looks so beautiful in spring time. **We are now in the season of Easter – it is indeed a beautiful season, it is our spring season ! The picture of Jesus’ Resurrection also looks so beautiful.** Just as Jesus got up after every fall, we must rise from our sins no matter how many times we sin. Just as Veronica sprang out through the crowd to wipe the face of Jesus, we too must reach out to others in need, wipe their tears and offer them solace. Just as Jesus spoke those comforting words to the robber crucified to His right, such words should also spring forth from our mouth, consoling someone in distress. Just as Jesus speaks those words of forgiveness, such words should also spring out from our mouth.

**It is the Easter Season when Jesus springs forth to Life at the Resurrection, after a horrifying Good Friday. This Easter season, we are called to spring forth – to get out of the quagmire of sin that we find ourselves in; to break out of our slump, our suffering. At Easter, the new Water is also blessed – can we turn that New Water into a Spring within us ? Let us see that Water spring forth. At Easter, Jesus gives us NEW LIFE and gives it abundantly. Yes, during this Easter season, we need to spring forth to NEW LIFE, with faith in the RISEN CHRIST !**

**(Contd.. from p. 2)**

the losers. ‘Happy Easter’ in French is ‘Joyeuses Paques’.

In Germany, children play a fun game called Chocolate Kiss. Chocolate coloured marshmallows are used

which the children have to gobble up trying to keep a clean face. The cleanest face wins. They say ‘Happy Easter’ in German, which is ‘Frohe Ostern’.

Easter in The Netherlands is celebrated by children participating in a cracking contest. They smack their eggs together and the one that comes out with the least cracks is the winner. This is called Eiertikken, while ‘Happy Easter’ is ‘Vrolijk Pasen’.

Sweden celebrates Easter with children dressing up in colourful headscarves, painted red cheeks and long skirts pretending they are witches. Small twigs and branches of birch or willow are commonly placed in vases within Swedish houses, along with small decorations and feathers. In Swedish ‘Happy Easter’ is ‘Glad Pask’.

Easter celebrations in Wales, can be heard from miles away. On Easter Sunday, known there as ‘Wales Palm Sunday’, a singing contest is held. Famous Welsh singers and choirs from many different chapels participate. And ‘Happy Easter’ in Welsh says ‘Hapus Pasg’

So, whatever the world might say, I simply wish readers a Happy and Joyful Easter.

Looking back at the suffering Jesus went through on Good Friday, does anything really

strike us ? When Jesus’ face was filled with sweat and blood none of those standing alongside dared to step out and wipe the face of Jesus. **But then, we see how Veronica springs forth through the crowd and wipes the face of Jesus, smeared with blood and sweat.** Veronica had the courage to defy the soldiers and do her bit for Jesus and getting rewarded with the image of Jesus face imprinted on that piece of cloth. Each time Jesus fell, our heart probably skipped a beat – will Jesus be in a position to get up and complete the journey to Calvary ? **But there we see, Jesus gets up after each fall, gathers up strength to walk up the road to Mount Calvary.**

While hanging on that Cross in pain, in the midst of deep pain and suffering, **words of forgiveness spring forth from Jesus’ mouth** – “Forgive them Lord, for they know not what they do.” Once again, while one of the robbers teases Jesus, and the other robber asks Jesus to remember him when He came into His own, **those comforting words spring forth when Jesus assures the robber,** “This day, you will be with me in paradise.”

Finally All is over, and Jesus is laid to rest in the tomb and the Big stone is rolled across the tomb, with guards on duty, everybody goes home feeling

# Is Manmohan Accused?

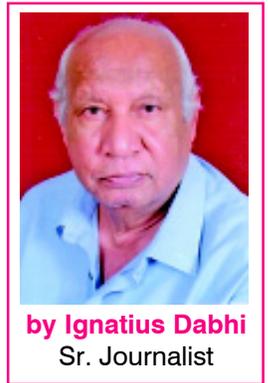
## Does Modi Frighten the Opposition?

**R**ahul is followed by police, CBI is behind Mamta, bailed out Jayalalita and Patnaik see nightmares during the day... Wadhera is in the list ....

The CBI can fix up anybody in India. The ruling party has a handy tool - the CBI - to cow down any citizen in India. The country's highest legal authority calls CBI " a caged parrot. When the BJP was in the opposition, it wanted the CBI "an autonomous status""Under no government dictum.

Modi and many BJP men promised to "free from the government clutches. Now in power, the ruling BJP leaves no stone unturned to frighten the Bengal tigress Didi. The latest prey of the CBI has been the former Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, the CBI goes on saying before the Delhi court that Dr. Singh was involved the coal - scam.

Should we come to believe that "Mr. Clean Manmohan Singh" is corrupt? Did Dr. Singh take personal interest in Hinalco Company's Kumar Mangalam Birla's case? It took nearly two years, after a lengthy correspondence between the then PMO, Kumar Mangalam and the Orissa's CM Patnaik. It is obvious that no over-night decision was taken by Dr. Singh. The decision was arrived at after a long perished following a lengthy correspondence. There



by Ignatius Dabhi  
Sr. Journalist

are no direct or indirect proofs against Dr. Manmohan or the Orissa CM Patnaik. And yet the CBI seems to be dancing at somebody's tune. It can call Dr. Singh and there are BJP-paid media to malign Dr. Singh's image. In all his sixty years of public life, even his bitter critics say that "Dr. Singh has a clean" public life.

The CBI does not have Dr. Singh as its target. It's target is "10 Janpath" - Madam Soniaji! If we remember well, the then media adviser of Dr. Singh, Mr. Sanjay Baeie, in his book says that Manmohan was only a toy in Sonia Gandhi's hands, Sonia used to take decisions on files. Sources say that the investigation may reach - 10, Janpath .... It is interesting to know that in 2013, the same CBI in its closer report had said that Dr. Manmohan's decisions were in the larger interest of the nation! In February 2015, the CBI gave it in writing to the Supreme court that 'there are no proofs of evidence against Manmohan Singh or Birla. The question at this juncture arises, "What then happened in just last 15 days that Dr. Singh has become an 'accused'?" Political pundits say that Dr. Singh will come out clean but his reputation and image will suffer. Modi government's shameful defeat in Rajya Sabha or

thanks motion has hurt Modi greatly. Modi and Arun Jetley termed the CBI as "corrupt bearer of investigation. Today in power, the BJP is making the CBI its handy tool, Mean while the Congress party all over the country is upset on the police watch on Raul Gandhi. " the colour of Rahul's eyes, hair, his routine, his close friends and their phone numbers... the names of his mother, father. " Bravo Delhi Police!!!

Modi's BJP government, in order to pass its Bills in Rajya Sabha, will go on frightening the Opposition. Is it really so? Can Narendra Modi and his men become so vindictive? Let's wait and watch...

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# Why This Secret Mission?

Shocking that the members of the National Minorities Commission [NCM] were in Mumbai for two days at Sahyadri Guest and hardly anyone knows about their visit.

They are supposed to meet members of the Minorities to understand their problems or is this a private agenda programme or a secret meeting.

We demand an explanation from NCM why this was not widely published so that all aggrieved Minorities could attend to air their grievances.

We were shocked to hear that the members of the NCM are in Mumbai for two days beginning today at Sahyadri Guest House. They are supposed to meet members of the Minorities to understand their problems. Unfortunately no one knows that they are here. Whom are they going to meet? Is it a secret closed door meeting for a select few.

On checking further with the Maharashtra State Minorities Commission office in Mumbai, they confirmed that the Chairman and members of the NCM are in Mumbai for two days and they have received the programme schedule which they refused to share with us. State Minorities Commission Office person told us that this meeting was organised by the Minorities Welfare Department of Government of Maharashtra and they had only been informed. Sad and unfortunate. When probed why the State Minorities Commission had not published this wider, she said they had role to play in this meeting.

National Minorities Commission [NCM] website proudly says "An organisation to safeguard the Constitutional and Legal Rights of the Minorities".

But tragically their track record has been pathetic. In the current attacks on Christian Minorities all over the Country, NCM is found missing in action. Normally the NCM members do site visits to the spots of violence. But it appears they are sitting in the airconditioned cabins of the NCM in Delhi. They are supposed to be at the ground level when incidents of violence and intimidation happens to the Minorities..

While accessing the NCM website, there is a new icon for "Successes". And you will be surprised that there is listed a success story of an attack on the Pastor and the Church Members of the Victory Mission International Church, Kottayam, Kerala and a response from the Police in Kerala dated 05/06/2011. And two more success stories in 2010 and 2012.

None of what has happened in the last 8 months on Christian minorities has got the attention of the NCM. It appears that the NCM does not seem to serve the purpose for which it has been constituted to safeguard the rights of the Minorities and waste public money in the process..

We demand an explanation from the NCM why this meeting was not widely published so that the aggrieved minorities could meet them to air their grievances.

We also demand that they should extend their stay and allow more minorities to make their representations.

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*Dolphy D'souza*  
09833884227  
Spokesperson

*SAVE OUR LAND [SOUL] Team*  
Former President - THE BOMBAY  
CATHOLIC SABHA  
Former National Vice President- ALL  
INDIA CATHOLIC UNION

# Rally In Nadiad



To protest attacks on Christians and Christian Institutions a massive rally was organized by Khristi Samaj Sangathan, Kheda District on 26-03-2015. It started from St. Mary's Nadiad to Jilla Seva Sadan, Kheda-Nadiad, People from various villages and the cities joined the rally.



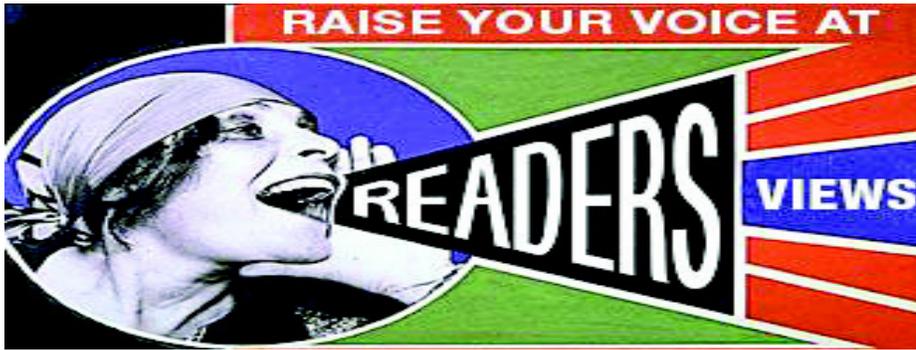
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—K C Thomas,  
Navi Mumbai

## Let Hearts of Parents Choose

Reference to the article with the abovenoted caption by Don Aguiar ( Secular Citizen March 2,2015 ). Marriage does not require many of the secular conditions like finance, beauty, job etc etc. From the Catholic point of view marriage is a sacrament by which a man and a woman form with each other an intimate communion of life and love, ordered for the good of the couple ,as well as to the generation and education of the children.. It is primarily based on the free consent of the contracting parties. Unity, indissolubility and openness to fertility are essential to the marriage.

However as we are human beings living on earth, we may have some earthly aspirations .There is no harm in taking into account such aspirations while the free consent is offered. This is purely individual . I have come across marriage between boys who are matriculates and the girls are engineering graduates. Similarly there are doctor wives and middle level govt service husbands. There are postgraduate wives and less educated businessmen. In marriage one should first of all consider the spouse as God's gift. Another thing required is the decision to love the spouse unconditionally. Though these are present. there are possibilities of discord and skirmishes. There comes the need for adjustments for the beloved. . More communication between the spouses and regular prayer are real solutions in such situations.

Education, status, family are all important, but unconditional love is the only one factor that sustains the couple and their togetherness. Educational qualification to some extent is required, but there is no need for any comparison, other things being fine.

—K C Thomas

## Which is God's Dwelling Place?

Even as the search by world scientists for the elusive God particle continues to make headway in the hope of unravelling the mysteries of the universe and the source of creation which most people call God, different views of this transcendent and all pervading entity have been expressed over a period of time. Today, even some of our politicians and public figures feel it their right to pontificate on a subject which earlier was the exclusive preserve of theologians and esoteric schools. A hornet's nest was stirred a month ago by erudite and outspoken Dr Subramaniyam Swamy, when at a public meeting in Assam he made an outrageous statement that God dwells only in Hindu temples and not in churches and mosques. On a similar note, Goa governor M/s Mridula Sinha while addressing a gathering of women in Mapusa on Gudi Padwa day stated that 'God dwells where women are respected' (N. T. March. 23) . With due respect to M/s Sinha , it would be interesting to know what happens otherwise , when women are abused and subjected to sexual harassment and violence? Does an omnipresent God have to change his dwelling place to suit the agenda and ambitions of a handful of earthly mortals? The desecration of churches presently witnessed in different parts of the country could well be the outcome of such bigoted views and thinking.

—A. F. Nazareth,  
Alto Porvorim

## A Cruel Fright

Now-a-days, terrorism in India is increasing more and more. And for that, we are responsible because among us there are some people who are at higher post in government sectors. They take bribes from terrorists and allow them to enter the country freely.

Terrorism is a major problem today not only in India, but in the whole world. The roots of terrorism are so vast and it is growing day by day and thus we cannot eliminate it completely but we can restrict it to some extent. Terrorists have no religion nor do they have any softness in their hearts towards people. Even children and infants are not spared. They just want to sow seeds of fear and terror in every human mind. But since it is a problem in the world, every country should come forward to fight it. As one of my friends said, the causes of terrorism are poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, hatred and corruption and I fully agree with him.

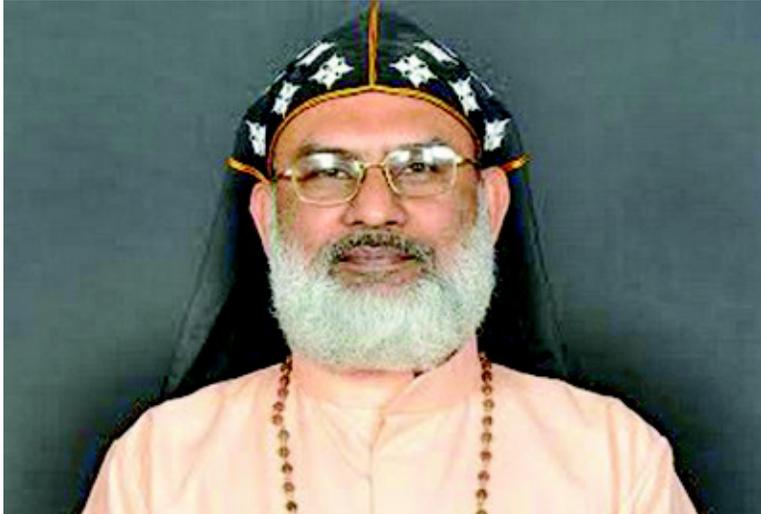
In my opinion, terrorism is nothing but fight for something in a cruel way.

—Jubel D'Cruz, Dombivili

## Marriage Bann

This has reference to the Views on News in the Secular citizen dated 5th January 2015. . My feeling is that reading of the bann cannot be treated as something not useful. As reading is the age old custom, at least some will listen. Also reading the bann does not involve any expense or difficulty.. The original intention might have been a kind of warning to the contacting parties also to ensure their genuineness. However the insertion of the bann in the Parish Bulletin and display in the notice board are good suggestions.

# Malankara Church gets two new dioceses



dream of Archbishop Mar Ivanios," who initiated mission work of the Church outside Kerala, said Cardinal Baselios Cleemis, in a press release. The Church came to Catholic fold in 1930.

With this canonical announcement, the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church has achieved all India jurisdiction for ecclesial administration, the release said.

The new Gurgaon Diocese is spread over 22 States in the North-East region of India. The Kirkee-Pune Diocese is spread over six States except Kerala in the south.

The Syro-Malankara Catholic Church now has two Exarchates, seven dioceses, one archdiocese, besides the Major Archdiocese of Trivandrum.

**New Delhi:** Pope Francis has established two new dioceses for the Kerala based Syro-Malankara Church giving it jurisdiction all across India, official announcements said Thursday.

The Oriental rite church will have one new diocese in Gurgaon near New Delhi and another based near western city of Pune, said Monsignor Joseph Chinnayyan, spokesperson of the national bishops' conference.

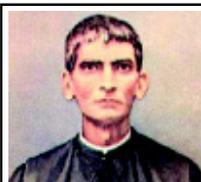
Bishop Jacob Barnabas was appointed the first bishop of the diocese of St. John Chrysostom of Gurgaon, Monsignor Chinnayyan said in a press release.

The new bishop will be housed at Mar Ivanios Bhavan, Neb Sarai, New Delhi and the St. Mary's Malankara Catholic Church near it will be his cathedral, said Monsignor Chinnayyan said.

The second diocese, officially called an Exarchate, is based at Khadki in Pune.

Bishop Thomas Mar Anthonios OIC was appointed its first bishop. St. Mary's Malankara Catholic Church in Khadki will be the new Cathedral and the residence and Curia of the new bishop will be in the Cathedral complex Khadki, the official release said.

"The announcement fulfills the great



**Thanks to Fr. Agnel for the favours granted**

— A. D'Costa, Panjim, Goa



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# Massive Dharna In Ahmedabad

It was a sea of humanity which Ahmedabad has rarely witnessed in recent times. They came from all over – young and old, poor and rich from the slums and from the villages, ordinary people and those who belong to the cream of society. There were Hindus and Muslims, Jains and Buddhists, Parsis and Christians; some of them were also agnostics and atheists. They represented a whole cross section of society.

In spite of their differences, about ten thousand of them were together in the centre of Ahmedabad on March 20th 2015 at a dharna and in one voice saying: 'Enough is Enough!' 'Stop the Attacks on women, minorities, adivasis, dalits, farmers, poor and other vulnerable sections!' 'Protect & Promote Constitutional Rights!' Speaker after speaker voiced their concern about what is happening in the country today. A handout distributed at the Dharna highlighted in particular the frequency of the attacks on women and minorities:

"What is happening to the women in India is indeed shocking; a highly patriarchal mindset with great gender insensitivity naturally provokes and even legitimises inhuman acts. Almost daily, we read about assaults, molestations and rapes of women. A normal society will never be able to accept the brutal rape of a six year old girl child in Ahmedabad or the barbaric gang-rape of a seventy-two year old nun in West Bengal. Yogi Adityanath's men telling Hindus to rape dead Muslim women is



sick to the core! Women today from all walks of life feel more and more insecure.

The attacks on minorities take place today with frightening regularity. Ministers of the Central Government and Members of Parliament make the most derogatory remarks against Christians and Muslims; they do so with impunity and immunity. Attacks on Christian institutions, Church personnel and the desecration of what is sacred to the Christians seem to happen all the time. Minorities are systematically denigrated with a highly placed politician even going on record to say that 'Mosques and Churches are mere buildings'; besides, the divisive 'ghar wapsi' programmes; the insidious remarks to make 'Gita' as the country's national book; the attempts to take away the 'secular' dimension from the Constitution are all areas of concern for large sections of India's population."

Among the several eminent speakers which spoke were Archbishop Stanislaus Fernandes sj of Gandhinagar, Bishop Silvan Christian of the CNI, Gujarat, Bishop Thomas Macwan of Ahmedabad, Fr. Francis Parmar, the Provincial Superior of the Gujarat Jesuits, Mr. Girish Patel, Senior Counsel, Gujarat High Court and doyen of the Human Rights Movement of Gujarat, Mr Gautam Thakker of the PUCL, women activists Ms. Sophia Khan, Meenakshi Joshi and Ms. Sheba George; Sr Nirmala, Principal of the

Convent of Jesus and Mary, Baroda

At the end of the programme, the general feeling of the massive crowd was one of great satisfaction of the way they had broad-canvassed the issues that face the common person today and they were convinced that civil society all over needs to come out in larger numbers in order to safeguard the rights and freedom of every single citizen of the country.

The dharna was organised by the Gujarat United Christian Forum for Human Rights (GUCFHR) and supported by several like-minded individuals and groups which include Peoples' Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL), Movement for Secular Democracy (MSD), Citizens for Justice and Peace (CJP), ANHAD, SANCHETNA, SAHR WARU, Darshan, INSAF, Ahmedabad Women Action Group (AWAG), SAFAR, Jan Sangharsh Manch (JSM)

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Prop. B. D'Souza

# Citizens Are Not Beggars

"India is the only country where citizens address bureaucrats as SIR. This in turn gives the impression that the Govt, as personified by the bureaucrat, is the dispenser of largesse, and the citizen a humble beneficiary of the same". Had these words been uttered by a hardcore leftist they would not have raised an eyebrow. But if they emanate from a senior retired bureaucrat, then it is indeed breaking news, and we need to sit up and listen.

These words of wisdom came from Sri Anand Prakash Kala IRS (Retd), the former Special Secretary in the Union Finance Ministry. Earlier he had held several sensitive posts like DG Economic and Revenue Intelligence, Director Narcotics Bureau etc, and had received a Presidential Award for distinguished service. Among the highlights of his illustrious career was his arrest of the self-proclaimed god man Chandraswami in Dubai, and the raid on former Tamilnadu Chief Minis-



BY CHHOTEBHAI

ter Ms Jayalithaa, that resulted in her conviction and imprisonment.

With such a wealth of experience Kala was not talking through his hat. He was pinpointing some of the root causes of corruption at a seminar on "Corruption in Public Life" organized recently by the Kanpur Nagrik Manch. He said that in America there is no such thing as a bureaucratic service, as in India; which is a vestige of our colonial past where the Gora sahibs sat in their Raj Durbars. In America police chiefs, judges, the Mayor and other public servants are chosen by the local populace themselves; and hence are answerable and accountable to them.

Kala gave several instances of how the high and mighty in other countries came within the gambit of the law, as ordinary citizens. While in service he was on a three-day visit to Detroit, USA. Two days were "official" work so a car and driver were provided to him. The third day was a private matter, so he

was politely told that he would have to pay for any services provided to him.

In the U.K. a Member of Parliament had made a seemingly innocuous enquiry from the Passport Office for expediting a particular case. He was made to resign within three days, for abuse of office. When then British Prime Minister Tony Blair's son was arrested for drunken driving, Blair had to go personally to the police station to obtain bail for his son.

Unfortunately in India both bureaucrats and politicians live in ivory towers, beyond the pale of the common man. It is this unassailable power that corrupts absolutely. This interface between the powerful and powerless needs to change drastically. Legislation is inadequate for this. Societal pressure must be brought to bear. Corrupt persons should be ostracized and socially boycotted. Tolerance, and worse still, adulation of the corrupt is a grave danger. For this citizens and social activists must be eternally vigilant, Kala said.



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He also added a caveat that the provisions of Section 13 of the Prevention of Corruption Act were too sweeping, as any form of pecuniary benefit to a third party could be misconstrued to be favouritism. Hence upright officers are sometimes loath to take decisions that could boomerang on them.

As a word of advice, Kala said that we need to be honest even in little things. If not, we could be prone to committing major wrongful acts later. He strongly advocated that citizens groups like the Kanpur Nagrik Manch should make the establishment of the rule of law as their target. Citizens should also openly support honest and dedicated officers who may be taking great risks to serve the nation, he opined.

Responding to various questions thrown at him from the floor of the house Kala said that in order to reduce corruption there should be a service delivery law, as in Karnataka State. If we have time bound responsibility, then work will be speeded up and corruption, or opportunities for



it, will be greatly reduced. We need a monitoring system for time bound delivery of services.

Kala did not agree with Arvind Kejriwal's approach of telling people to give bribes and photograph the act; as he felt that citizens should not assume the role of the police, or attempt vigilante style justice. As for the Lokpal, though it had political consensus there was still disagreement on its composition. Though the Lokpal should have its sphere of autonomy it cannot be both prosecutor and judge. Its powers need fine tuning, as absolute power corrupts absolutely. The Lokpal should not be vested with draconian powers. Infact Draco was a Greek who believed that the only punishment for an offence was death. Too drastic!

Kala agreed with the house that too much discretionary power vested in bureaucrats was a major source of corruption. Decentralization of power, as provided for in the

## Seminar on 'PRAN Card'



Nice Community Welfare Association successfully conducted a free program of National pension system (NPS) "PRAN CARD" Permanent retirement account pension card for all – scheme by Govt. of India open account with Rs. 100/- and pay monthly Rs. 100/- and Govt. of India will also contribute Rs. 1000 per year. If persons are capable of paying Rs. 1000 at a time per annum Central Govt. also contribute a Maximum of Rs. 1000 per annum to the Permanent retirement account . They had conducted a Pan Card Shibir also on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> & Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2015. The whole program was inaugurated by Shri Henry Lobo – Chairman - Christian Chamber Commerce and Industry Ltd. Several persons from the community of Mumbai took advantage of this benefit. The trustee of Nice Community Welfare Association worked hard to make grand success. A large number of people of Kalina constituency utilized this opportunity.

73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment to the Constitution (Panchayatiraj in rural areas) and the 74<sup>th</sup> Amendment (that provides for urban self-governance) needed to be implemented in the States.

As for the quantum of black money stashed abroad, there was no solace! Kala, who himself had been in the Enforcement Directorate, unequivocally stated that, despite the political hype, the figures are pure guesswork and mere conjecture. Infact there is much more black money here in India itself, rather than abroad. It will also not be easy to get such monies back to India without international bilateral treaties.

This upright and forthright top gun, who even now is a visiting faculty at the National Police Academy, CBI Academy, United Nations Drug Control etc, appreciated the work of the Kanpur Nagrik Manch and exhorted its members to fight against corruption - for the citizens are not beggars. They must assert their lawful rights while at the same time fulfilling their duties as citizens.

*\* The writer is the Convenor of the Kanpur Nagrik Manch. Sri Kala and he studied together from 1958 to 1965.*

# TO-GET-HER

**“If you would marry suitably, marry your equal” ...  
Anonymous.**

Coming together is the first step to a marriage. Finding that one person, who you want to grow old with, can be quite a challenge. Thanks to social media- facebook, twitter, whatsapp... the challenge is a bit simplified.

We live in an age where many women are educated, employed and are financially independent. And yet when it is the time for look for a suitable groom or to meet the suitable groom, she is cowed down to behave like a shy, tamed female.

**For marriage, coming together happens in various ways;**

- 1. Falling in love (school, college, workplace, church, socials)**
- 2. Arrangements made/ proposals bought (by friends, relatives, neighbours, matchmakers)**
- 3. Self-search for a partner (internet, matrimonial ads etc.)**

It is difficult to zero in on one and say “this will make a perfect or successful marriage”. As a lawyer, if I have to recommend one of these ways to find a partner, I’d say whichever way you employ to find a partner, make an informed decision.

A person may appear to be your “perfect match” on a social networking site but be alert, it may be a façade and in real life the person may not be anything similar.

You may be in love with a person and may have courted him/her for years at end but it is when you start living under the same roof that adjustment problems crop up. So it is important to know the person and see the person through all circumstances. Finally when you marry, it’s not just the 2 hours in a day that you two will spend together, but it is 24x7.

If you opt for a proposal marriage, quite many facts about the per-

**Marry because you want to be married. Choose to marry and don’t get carried away. Marry the one who loves you, respects you and is open to share life and responsibility with you. Marry the one who you love, respect and want to share life with. Marry suitably by marrying your equal!!**



**by Adv. Aileen Marques**



son are known when biodatas are exchanged. Wait!! Don’t hurry. Know the person.

Knowing the person is the key to a successful relationship- be it friendship or marriage. Get to know the person, their likes, dislikes, their dreams, their talents, their successes, their weakness, their shortcomings etc. etc. Get to know the qualifications of the person, browse through their place of employment, critically evaluate their facebook profiles, understand the types of friends they have. Know and learn!! That is your responsibility.

Once you have known the person, the next step in knowing the family. Understand the dynamics of the relationship in the family. Analyze who is the boss and who takes decisions. Observe who controls your spouse and if that control is positive.

In many cases of domestic violence and divorce, the husband or the wife do not come alone to seek advice. They are accompanied by their families. Even when we see the court scenario, the couple seeking divorce is accompanied generally by some member of the family. This goes to show that the family plays a vital role in strengthening/ breaking marital relationships.

There have been many cases where the qualifications, family background, income, assets, liabilities etc are misrepresented. Still many cases where homosexual persons are misrepresented as heterosexuals. Many more cases come to light where the boy/girl cannot take independent decisions and depend on their family to even decide small petty things.

“Two souls with but a single thought, Two hearts that beat as one” adorns many-a wedding invitation and it is when you come together that you must discern if this soul shares a single thought with your soul and if this heart is eligible to beat as one with your heart.

To-get-her/him is an important step in a marriage and when you search for him/her search for your equal. Don’t look for someone who is wealthy and aspire to get rich by his/her wealth. Don’t look for a girl whose father promises a *crorepatti* dowry. Don’t look for a spouse who can fulfill your material desires. Don’t seek a perfect partner. Don’t marry for beauty, it will fade away. Don’t marry for lust, it is short-lived. Don’t marry because you are forced to marry, it’s not a marriage then.. it is slavery. Don’t marry because your parents say marry, it is forced consent. Don’t marry because it’s a social norm to be married, you might find it suffocating.

Marry because you want to be married. Choose to marry and don’t get carried away. Marry the one who loves you, respects you and is open to share life and responsibility with you. Marry the one who you love, respect and want to share life with. Marry suitably by marrying your equal!!

# Win Over Mom-in-law

If you love your husband, try and do everything in your power to get along with his mother. This one woman you cannot just ignore. Become a darling daughter to your mom-in-law

**W**hether you are a daughter-in-law or a to-be daughter-in-law, the question ‘how to strike the right chord with your mom-in-law?’ might always be at the back of your mind. Remember, your mom-in-law is one important person in your man’s life, so befriending her is very important. Check out 5 ways to win over your mom-in-law and build a strong relationship with her.

## 1. Keep in touch

One great way to build a bond with your mom-in-law is by keeping in touch with her regularly. You can call her, send messages to her or pay an occasional visit to her house. Even if your husband is around or not, keep this contact without fail. Always wish on her birthday, or other special occasions. Don’t forget to ask if she needs any help. Your mom-in-law will be impressed by your concern.

## 2. Say “recipe please”

Asking your mom-in-law for your husband’s favorite recipe can work great in two ways. Firstly, you get to make your husband happy and secondly, you are making your mom-in-law feel important. Asking her son’s favorite recipe can actually make her feel that you are taking care of him in every way. All the more, your mom-in-law feels appreciated to know that her son still admires her cooking. This is an easy way to win your mom-in-law’s heart.

## 3. Say “you look great, mom!”

Pampering and flattering your mother-in-law, like appreciating her looks,

Remember, show more love and concern to her and encourage your husband to call her daily so that she never feels left out.

Always wish on special occasions. Don't forget to ask if she needs any help.

Your mom-in-law will be impressed by your concern.



her dress or her housekeeping style will matter a lot to her. After all who does not like to be lauded? You can also borrow her stuff for some occasion. She will feel great.

## 4. Focus on her positive side

Do not judge your mom-in-law even before you get to know her. Focus on the positive things in her and seek advice from her, if required. Never fake, act genuinely as otherwise your body language might cheat you sometimes.

Speak politely to your mom-in-law and to your husband, especially when she is around. If you give love, you will get love for sure.

## 5. Avoid grumpiness

If you dislike some approaches of your mom-in-law, talk it out with her. She may like it or not, but she will definitely appreciate your frankness. Do not talk bad about your mom-in-law to your husband.

# After Easter A Season Of Faith

**EASTER 2015** has automatically recharged the world of Christians with a renewed spiritual life. Now, begins for all believers six weeks of thanksgiving in praise and justification of the Messiah's promise fulfilled, of his presence among the faithful till his Ascension. With a sense of prophetic insight the nations of the world are seeing today the shadow of death slithering across the Lord's holy earth.

This Easter welcomes the Season of Faith: to pray for the retribution of those who hate, to pray and do penance for those who are blind to God's mercy, to make sacrifice for the sins of the world. Prayer, penance and sacrifice is the theme for this Season of Faith.

We are still the children of the Covenant, heirs of the Lord Jesus, a new generation entrusted to preserve the faith. God can destroy evil by a close encounter with those he has chosen to shape a great Christian world of love and forgiveness 'secundum spiritum' by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Today, hope is not unimaginable in the world. There are many groups in the Christian and Catholic community serving to save the faith and preserve full communion with others. Currently there are young people urging their leaders and elders to give witness to Christ through solidarity. This fragile world must be targeted by faith, trust and belief.

If deriving maximum benefit from a delicate world is on your mind, this Season of Faith must be in every Christian's interest to immerse spiritual effort in a portent vision of peace, a metaphor for a grand design. Today's uncertain and messy state of affairs at home and abroad needs a bases of personal responsibility, public spirit, firmness of purpose and a sense of munificent duty. There is also need on



a global scale to have simple, honest, straightforward people. Gifts and talents of the faithful must always be used with foresight and dignity.

Broadly speaking this Season in time would be our moment to turn a proverbial new leaf and do the right thing. Remember, it takes one person to make a difference. We may be losing our spiritual leadership and the void has been engulfed with crimes, greed, rape and unfocused violence.

As a baptized Christian you became a crusader for the Lord Jesus, and he put you here as His mission ambassador to use your workplace, family and talent for God's greater glory.

Let us not forget the martyrdom of Sr. Valsa John from Kerala who was hacked to death for campaigning tribal rights and opposing the coal mining mafia in the area, belonged to the congregation of the Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary. The brutal murder was condemned across the nation and also across Europe. Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians gathered in inter-faith prayers for the slain nun.

A second desperate news came from the Vatican. The Jesuit journal *La Civiltà Cattolica* reviewed by the Vatican before publication said, "What the law permits or prohibits offline must also be the case online".

With regard to the internet, The Catholic Times, London, said : " It should

be accessible to all and respectful of the rights of others." This is self-evident, yet, we must demand a tough censor for child pornography and cyberterrorism.

Many companies exploit computer users for financial profit and had regimes block information from their people. We need a charter of Human Rights for internet users. A third news of concern : Should Bethlehem be recognized by UNESCO as the Palestinian World Heritage site ?

The Franciscans, who are in charge of the city's holy places, do not agree. "We fear it could lead to nationalization of the shrines. The shrines are not tourist places, but are places of prayer and worship."

The good news for Catholics around the globe emerged from Lima, in southern Peru. A relic of St. John Paul II which contains a vial of the late Pope's blood was sent to the diocese of Tacna-Maquegua. The enthronement of the relic took place at the Cathedral of Tecna where a special place was made at the altar for veneration by Catholics.

The relic was a gift to the southern Peruvian Church given by Pope Benedict XVI . The Easter Season of Faith will surely be the forerunner to celebrations in evangelization, pledging continued prayers and missions in spreading His name.

The Word of God is the most humane and charitable support for the cause. The pontiff has insisted that evangelization is the need of our times. Struggling leadership is no excuse for showing indifference to terror and violence in the world. 'Thinking and programming plans' while more heads roll is nothing less than an 'inside' fear of what more could happen. Prayer, penance and sacrifice is the watershed for God's mercy. Easter and the Season of Faith will please God.



BY MELVYN BROWN



# Are Christians Pacifists Or Alarmists?

by *Chhotebhai*

**A**re Christians cowards? Are they afraid to confront their attackers? Pope Francis, in the wake of the recent church bombings in Lahore, stated that the world is trying to hide from the reality that Christians are being persecuted worldwide. Be it Iraq, Syria, Nigeria, Somalia, Kenya or Pakistan – Christians are seen as soft targets. In other countries like China and Saudi Arabia they are suppressed. They are not allowed to build churches, pray together, bring a Bible or even send Christmas cards with religious images on

a convent in New Delhi was vandalized. The sisters themselves stated that it was not a communal act. Smriti Irani, the HRD Minister, an alumnus of the institution, rushed there. Even the Prime Minister hauled up the Delhi Police Commissioner. Yet several activist groups felt that this merited a strong street protest, and promptly did so.

Shortly after, two major temples in my hometown Kanpur had their donation boxes stolen. There was no hue and cry. I see periodic newspaper reports

you hit me?” (Jn 18:23). He is reacting to blatant injustice, not retracting from it.

What about peaceful co-existence? Jesus is known as the Prince of Peace (Is 9:6). In his final discourse he says, “Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give to you. I do not give it as the world does” (Jn 14:27). Later, when Peter, with his sword, strikes off the ear of one of the soldiers who had come to arrest Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus admonishes him saying, “All who take the sword will die



*Shri Chhotebhai - National President leading an AICU delegation to Gajraula in July 1990, to investigate the molestation of Religious Sisters. Seen here with the U.P. Minister and Superior General.*



*AICU Office Bearers met Shri Subodh Kant Sahai then Union Home Minister to protest the Gajraula outrage in 1990*

them. In erstwhile Christian countries public workers, even airhostesses, are not permitted to wear religious symbols like a cross, though this does not apply to Sikh and Muslim immigrants who assert their right to wear distinctive religious garb, even in the police and armed forces uniforms!

For how long should the Christian world keep quiet? With the BJP now in absolute power in India, there have been mounting attacks on Christians, from Delhi to Mangalore, and now West Bengal. Other than the blatant attacks, there is also the subterfuge – Ghar Vapsi, a proposed anti-conversion law, snide remarks against Mother Teresa and even the beef ban. So how much longer should Christians keep saying with Jesus “Forgive them Father! They do not know what they are doing” (Lk 23:34).

At the other end of the spectrum we have alarmist groups that cry foul at the smallest instance. The latest is when

about ancient idols being stolen from Hindu temples. They do not cause a whimper of protest. We need to bear this in mind to keep our objectivity.

Should we be pacifist or alarmist? Are we bravehearts or cowards, or somewhere in between? It is not an easy question to answer. Those of us who seek enlightenment from the Bible would also find that the issue is a complex one.

The popular quote from Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount is “If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, let them slap your left cheek too” (Mat 5:39). This is known as the “turning the other cheek” syndrome; something which Mahatma Gandhi, Rev Martin Luther King Jr, Nelson Mandela and Abp Desmond Tutu used as an effective tool of political non-violence. But this is not the full story, because when Jesus himself was slapped during his trial before Caiaphas the Chief Priest, he spiritedly retorted, “If I am right in what I have said, why do

by the sword” (Mat 26:52). Yet he himself had earlier said, “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the world. No I did not come to bring peace but a sword” (Mat 10:34). As a caveat I may add that the sword referred to is the sword of division, not of violence.

So we would have to admit that circumstances vary, and necessitate various responses. Hence we need to be pragmatists, rather than pacifists or alarmists. We need to take each case on merit, contextualising it with the broader picture. Let us also not forget Newton’s Third Law of Motion that for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction; as evidenced from Paris to Dimapur.

Christian leaders need to be judicious. Some times right wing forces may deliberately provoke us (like some TV anchors) eliciting a response that we may later regret. Which brings me to the

*(Contd.. on p. 16)*

**(Contd.. from p. 15)**

TV debates on such issues. Unfortunately most TV anchors are not concerned with the facts. They thrive on sensationalisation and controversy, which in turn increases their TRPs. It is here that I find the Christian leadership totally lacking, especially on the English channels that I watch. Our so-called spokespersons are woefully inadequate, falling into the traps set for them, becoming argumentative and often trying to defend the indefensible. The latest case is of the sister principal of a famous ladies' college in Mumbai. She was totally at sea. Maybe this is because priests and principals are used to talking down to others and seldom having to face public scrutiny.

Our priests and bishops are neither skilled orators, nor dramatists, who can swing a debate or public opinion. The All India Catholic Union (AICU) is the proper lay organization to handle the mass media, but its main office bearers are not in Mumbai/Delhi where most TV channels/ studios are located. I perceive that Minorities in India are in for a long haul, so the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) and the AICU need to get their act together. As the saying goes, it is no use digging a well after the house has been burnt down.

Shortly after I was elected National President of the AICU in 1990 I had my baptism by fire because of the Gajraula nuns' rape case. Mrs. Lennie Gonsalves, then head of our women's wing, gave a clarion call for a pan India shutdown. It happened. We met Prime Minister V.P. Singh, who left a cabinet meeting (in which he threw out his deputy, Devilal) to meet us. In our presence he called U.P. Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav, to take immediate action and grant protection.

However, the other side of the story is that when we actually visited Gajraula some MPs from Kerala were telling the nuns in Malayalam not to talk to us, as they would take it up as a Kerala issue. What they did not know was that Mrs. Gonsalves, who was with me, was a Malayali too, and understood every word of their conversation. The story doesn't end there.

After the hot and dusty trip to Gajraula I returned to the CBCI Centre at New Delhi, where I had a room, only to find the whole place locked. Everybody

had gone to the Ashoka Hotel for a farewell cocktail party thrown by Abp Cacciavillan, the Papal Nuncio, who was then the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in the capital. Sweaty as I was, I took a smoke-spewing auto to the grand Ashoka, to find all the priests and nuns wining and dining. I stood out like a sore thumb in my crumpled kurta pyjama. Some did ask me, between sips and snacks, what was the scenario at Gajraula. But the irony was not lost on me. Horrendous rape and sumptuous food!

Shortly after Gajraula we had the Jogeshwari case, where two nuns were mysteriously murdered. Since there was a strong Catholic presence, including super cops, in Mumbai, I had no role to play. But I recall an allegation at that time that the murdered nuns were sexually active, so there was a call for exhumation of the bodies, to ascertain the facts. But the Catholic leadership of tinsel town balked at the idea, and the cloud of doubt remained. This was gross mishandling of the situation and the crime was never solved.

I am quoting these two incidents because they are symptomatic of how we handle crises, or rather the lack of it. A contributory factor is the hierarchy's inability to trust the laity and make them the frontline for crisis management. Catholics can become Chiefs of Army Staff, Governors, Ambassadors, Chief Ministers etc, but in the Church their role is limited to being glorified altar boys walking down the aisles with a collection bag! My blood boils.

Christians sometimes say that as long as there are Muslims in India, Christians can feel protected. This is no longer so, because right now there seems to be a "clash of civilizations" in both the West and Mid-East, and it is having its repercussions in India.

Another tactical blunder that Christian leaders fall prey to is to quote American reports or Obama's comments about religious freedom in India. Hindu tvawadis gleefully latch on to such statements to project Christians as lackeys of the West who are damaging the image of the country in international fora. I personally believe that the USA is the biggest perpetrator of terrorism and the most loyal supporter of Saudi Arabia. Hours after his admonishment to Modi in India, Obama was in Saudi Arabia, for

King Faizal's funeral. His wife, Michelle, was reprimanded for not wearing a veil. Buddy Barak did not have the guts to issue even a veiled threat to the Saudis about religious freedom (pun intended).

We also need to squarely address the issue of conversions, as that is the countervailing argument thrown at us for whatever happens. It is bad tactics to repeat ad nauseum that the country's Constitution allows for the propagation of faith. I recall the statement of Pope John Paul II when he visited India as a State Guest in 1996, appealing for the conversion of Asia. It was a PR disaster par excellence that we have not yet been able to live down. We need to remind ourselves what the Book of Ecclesiastes says, that there is a time for everything (cf Ecc 3:1-8). Jesus also advocates that we read the signs of the times (cf Lk 12:54-56).

While the Catholic Church has indeed changed with the times and has no single minded agenda for proselytisation, the same cannot be said for a host of others. Mushroom groups and Bible thumpers still go around decrying idolatry and threatening hell and damnation. It is time we told such evangelical groups that they are propagating a distorted understanding of Christianity, and even causing enmity in some circles.

I also feel that it is time that Christian leaders interacted on equal terms with leaders of other faiths in open dialogue, and in the vast area of human rights. Every child, woman or labourer that is being exploited or victimized, is equally precious in the eyes of the Lord. I believe that our safety does not lie so much under the umbrella of a bigger brother like the Muslims in India. It rather lies more in the goodwill and respect of the vast majority of our Hindu brethren.

We often boast of our services to society in the field of education and health. Let others say this of us. We should not be seen as blowing our own trumpets. With Jesus we must say, "I am but a servant doing my duty" (cf Lk 7:10). Let us then be neither pacifists nor alarmists, but pragmatists. Let us also evolve a cohesive form of crisis management, more erudite spokespersons, and a greater bond of trust between the hierarchy and the laity.

*The writer is the former National President of the AICU*

# The Rosary Of Liberation

by Leon Bent

I have been saying this Rosary for very many years, every single day. It emerged and was inspired by John 8:32: "If the Son sets you free, you are free, indeed!" I recommend it wholeheartedly to every reader of this Newsletter, and to their friends and family too. No matter how many Crosses you have, Easter Sunday will assuredly follow each time.

## NEW DEVOTION PRAYED ON BEADS SAID TO CAUSE POWERFUL HEALING AND 'LIBERATION'!

This is a set of prayers using the beads of the Rosary for "liberation" — freedom from bondages? *They call it just that* — the "Rosary of Liberation" — and claim miraculous healings and other effects have occurred after it is recited.

It is vitally important where the healing of the "Family Tree" is concerned; the generational line of contamination and curse, for no fault on our part; childhood hurts that we may not even be able to recollect or resurrect, nevertheless, they do us great harm and stifle our growth. This mysterious "satanic" force, embedded in our subconscious or unconscious, is very difficult to identify and, consequently, difficult to understand and erase. Unfortunately, it pins us to the ground and keeps us folded, stapled and mutilated. Our compulsions, fears, phobias, inhibitions and complexes are the outward signs of this hidden evil. But, Jesus can free us, if we 'ask, seek and knock' repeatedly, leading us from mess to miracle!

Should it replace the regular Mysteries of the Rosary - Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Light? Never!

*The beads of a Rosary can be used as a devotion, aimed at healing and*



other corrections in our lives, beginning with the Apostles' Creed, and, in the place of the Our Father, the words: "*If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.*"

That's from *John* 8:36, and the freedom of which they speak is freedom from ills in many and sundry forms, as testimonies attest.

In place of the *Hail Mary*: "*Jesus, have mercy on me! Jesus, heal me! Jesus, save me! Jesus, free me!*" It is this simple. We can all say it with ease. If you are praying for your family, the words are slightly different (placing "family" instead of "me"); and on the large beads: "*If Jesus makes my family free, my family will be free indeed.*"

This is sheer devotion. Like all prayers, it depends on faith.

The Rosary, in question, has brought about many healings as miracles testify. But, they cannot be shared here for want of space. My personal experience is it has brought a great deal of peace, joy and balance in my life, especially when I am mired in problems of a tough nature.

I have certainly come to realize that the "*truth*" sets a person free! It has worked for me. It will surely work for you too!

## On Sacrament Of Reconciliation

During the holy season of Lent the Church reminds the faithful of their moral obligation of confessing their sins at least once a year, and thereabout Easter time. Unfortunately, due to the shortage of priests in the parish, the church is often unable to cope with the rush of penitents on the days earmarked for confessions. Parishioners are therefore compelled to go elsewhere to fulfil their Easter duties at great inconvenience. And, even though the faithful are urged not to wait till the Holy week to confess their sins, we usually witness long queues comprising those who habitually confess every month or more often, and those waiting to fulfil their yearly obligation. This is an unhealthy practice which causes a lot of inconvenience to the priests as well as the faithful, as many are left out in the process. Delays are also caused when some priests take long at the confessional asking unnecessary questions and giving long talks. It is therefore suggested that we have a general absolution for all penitents who, after being put through a prayer-service of repentance and instruction, are forgiven and absolved by the priest in one go. If we can have mass-wedding nuptial celebrations of the sacrament of matrimony, why can't we have the same for the sacrament of reconciliation at least during the season of Lent. I hope the Church will consider this suggestion in a positive way. Protestants as we know are not required to confess their sins individually to a priest.

—A. F. Nazareth,  
*Alto Porvorim.*

# Congregation pays off expelled nun



the help of a nun known to her, the congregation authorities bought her an air ticket to Kochi, Anita said. Back in Kerala she was denied entry to the Sisters of Agata convent in Thottakkattukara.

Anita, a native of Kannur district, joined the congregation on January 15, 2007.

Father Thelakkat said the decision to award her money should not be seen as compensation, but a "help generously extended" by the congregation.

*Source: Ucan and New Indian Express*

Kochi: Probably for the first time in the history of the Church in Kerala, A nun, who was expelled from her congregation after she allegedly raised complaints of sexual harassment against a priest, was paid off with 12 lakh rupees.

The former nun, who is known as Anita, after she was expelled took refuge in an orphanage in Aluva and was seeking compensation from her congregation of the Sisters of Agata.

The decision to award the compensation was taken at a conciliation meeting held in Thottakkattukara near Aluva on Sunday. The meet was attended by Syro Malabar Church spokesperson Fr Paul Thelakkattu, Sr Anita's immediate relatives, and Jose Maveli, chairman of Janaseva Sisubhavan, where the expelled nun sought refuge.

The terms of the settlement wants the nun to give up her robes, which she refused to after she was expelled.

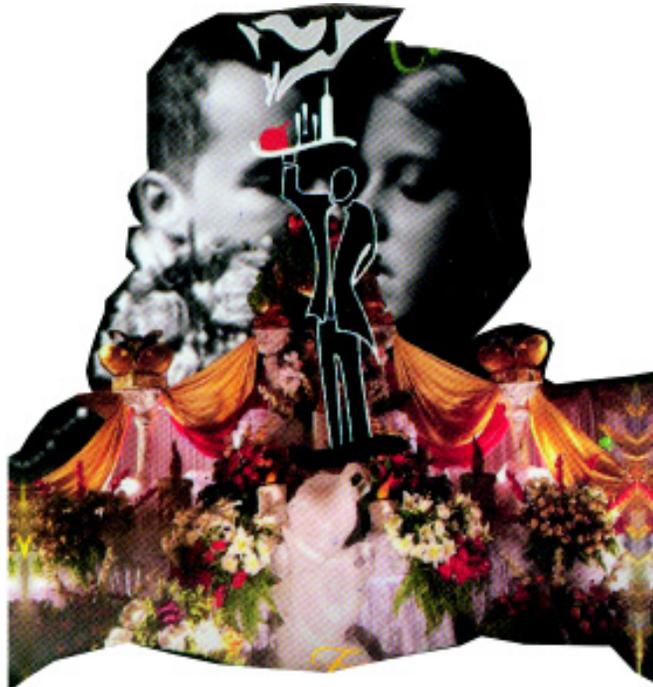
The tussle between Anita and the congregation began in 2011 after she complained against a priest who attempted to sexually abuse her. The alleged incident happened while she was serving as a teacher in Panchore in Madhya Pradesh.

She was later transferred to Mother House in Italy in May, 2012. According to her, she faced physical and mental harassment from the convent authorities while in Italy.

According to her the harassment continued even in the convent in Italy and she was finally expelled on February 19.

When she tried to stay in Italy, with

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# Inspiration!

## Putting Ideas Into Action

**Brainstorming is only a first step to innovation. Here are a few simple techniques for developing ideas you can actually use to solve business problems**

**C**onverting an idea into a reality is never an easy task. Most great ideas remain dormant because people don't have the courage, resources, time or money to take action. Let's take a look at how the ideas can be converted to action.

### **Believe in yourself**

This is the first and foremost requirement. You can't take action until you believe in yourself enough to handle the consequences of your decisions. Anytime you assume the responsibility to give something that had not existed before an opportunity to become a reality - you become accountable for your actions.

### **Problem - solution space.**

One must create boundaries in the idea-generation process. Constraining the problem and solution space forces idea generators to delve into an area. The result in broader range of ideas that have potential to move toward impact.

### **Break down problem:**

Use a visual technique, like diagramming. Break the problem in different parts and solve each part individually.

### **Make it personal.**

How do you make a business problem personal? By getting down in the trenches and observing the individuals who are affected by the problem and



who would also be affected by your proposed solutions. The goal is to make it as real as possible to the people who will be generating ideas. This is because when the ideas get personal, they create a more powerful impact.

### **Diverge the ideas**

You need to breed some conflict into your discussions. Otherwise a meeting can quickly devolve into a time waster, where precious minutes are lost on the first ideas to be voiced, rather than

what might be the best ideas. What is the solution? Start by asking participants to write down as many ideas as they can individually for five to 10 minutes. In our experience, the technique has two benefits. First, it gives introverts—who may be shy about sharing their suggestions openly in a larger group—a chance to maximize their contribution. Second, having lots of ideas on paper before the discussion begins, prevents the group from rallying around any specific solution too soon.

### **Create 'idea resumes'**

An idea resume is one-page document listing the following attributes: how customers will learn about it or access it; what resources or processes are needed to make it a reality; and how the solution will achieve economic sustainability.

The benefit of idea resumes is that when they're finished they allow all involved parties to scan and share ideas, in a way that invites apples-to-apples comparisons and ensures that ideas are evaluated on their merits rather than on how well they are pitched.

### **Create a plan to learn.**

Your ideas, no matter how pristine they appear on their 'resumes,' will all contain assumptions that need testing. So the seventh step is to design these tests, and to spell out what you aim to learn from them. And for businesses hoping to translate ideas into

action," note the authors, this is where the real work begins.

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**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor aged 41 years. Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 69 kgs., Wheatish Complexion, Edn. S.S.C. A/C Tech. Course, working as a A/C. Technician in U.A.E. Contact Email : lawrencedias321@gmail.com OR 9594678829 / 7208825574 (**Regd. No. 6228**)

**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. PGDRM, working as a Manager. Contact email : larsen316@gmail.com (**Regd. No. 6213**)

**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Chartered Accountant, working as a Chartered Accountant in a Pharmaceutical Company. Seeks a suitable Mangalorean girl. Contact email : ronaldroshan2003@gmail.com OR 9870248167 (**Regd. No. 6105**)

**MUMBAI :** Goan Widower, aged 45 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. SSC., HSC, Working Mechanical Technician in Abroad, having 9 years daughter. Currently in Mumbai. Contact email : cola\_mick@yahoo.com OR 9702148869 (**Regd. No. 6210**)

**MUMBAI :** Goan RC Bachelor aged 36 years, Ht. 6', Wt. 79 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Masters (Navitical Science), working as a Merchant Navy Chief Officer. Contact email : ephremf@gmail.com OR 9768153407 (**Regd. No. 6205**)

**USA :** RC Bachelor 34 / 5' 9", working in the USA, with a reputed organisation on a senior position, M.Com (India), MBA (USA) has good family values god fearing, pleasing personality, family oriented and having own accomodation in the USA. Seeks life

partner from a Roman Catholic spinster having good christian values and willing to settle in the USA. Please send Bio-data alongwith the latest photograph to ovrille@gmail.com (**Regd. No. 6204**)

**USA :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divorcee, aged 46 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Masters in Engineering and Business. Working as a Vice President. Seeks a girl below 40 years. Contact email : vinodmiranda@yahoo.com / miranda.ronald20@yahoo.com OR 9322191670 (**Regd. No. 6199**)

**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divocee, aged 44 years, Ht. 6', Fair Complexion, Edn. Undergraduate, working as a Security officer in Ship. Coming in the month of December, Seeks a suitable match. Contact Email : maldsouza@gamil.com OR 09480157258 (**Regd. No. 6198**)

**MUMBAI :** Anglo Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor aged 37 years, Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 75 kgs, fair Complexion, Edn. Bachelors in Business Administration, Diploma in Electronics, currently pursuing MBA in projects. Working as a Senior Operations Manager. Contact email : vanderhidebrian123@gmail.com OR 8655770778 / 9920207250 (**Regd. No. 6298**)

**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 7", Well built, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as an Asst. Manager. Contact email : ferdinand.furtado@gmail.com OR 9820018233 (**Regd. No. 6051**)

**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divorcee, aged 34 years, Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Team Leader. Contact email :

rdsouza\_12@yahoo.com OR 9987317544 (**Regd. No. 6050**)

**POONA :** Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 35 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., + Certified Fumigation Operator, Having own business. Seeks a fair good looking girl willing to settle in Poona. Contact email : nelsoncarvalho@rediffmail.com OR 9096466322 / 8600528122 (**Regd. No. 6020**)

**AHMEDABAD :** Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 68 kgs, fair and slim, Edn. B.Com., well settled. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : neillaw123@yahoo.co.in (**Regd. No. 6116**)

**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC Bachelor, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 52 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. SSLC., working as a Office Boy. Seeks a working girl 12th std. Contact Box No.101-S OR 9004105050

**MUMBAI :** 34 yr old mangalorean divorcee, church marriage annulled, no children, dentist by profession, own accommodation, own private clinic in mumbai, looking for spinters/divorcees upto age 32, mangalorean / goan. Contact email : job314mi4@gmail.com OR 9920059033. (**Regd. NO. 6008**)

**MUMBAI :** Goan RC Bachelor, aged 37 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 68 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Working as a T.L. Operation. Having own house. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : mq\_2775@yahoo.com OR 9821952841 (**Regd. No. 6035**)

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**DUBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 58 kgs, Fair Complexion, good looking and smart, Edn. MBA., working as a Manager in Bank. Seeks a graduate Bombay based Mangalorean bachelor, working in Dubai. Having a good status. Contact email : vick5256@gmail.com **OR** 00971 55 5902447 (Regd. No. 6150)

**DUBAI :** Mangalorean R.C. Spinster, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Working in Govt. Hospital in Dubai as Specialist Doctor (M.D.) Seeks a well qualified bachelor from Decent family. Kindly send the profile and recent photograph to Email : alliance12313@yahoo.in **OR** 09845850726 (Regd. No. 5619)

**BARODA :** Gujarati Protestant Spinster, aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 64 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Masters in Finance & Investment Banking from London. Smart, intellegent, from decent and well settled family. Seeks a suitable match from decent family background and well settled. Contact email : namratawaller82@yahoo.co.uk **OR** 9879110677 (Regd. No. 6307)

**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 58 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. Chartered Accountant, working as a Manager in Bank. Contact email : multipurpose2909@gmail.com **OR** 9004351178 (Regd. No. 6306)

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**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic spinster, aged 24 years, Ht. 5' Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatsih Complexion, Edn. M.Com., working as a Sr. Executive. Contact email : anithad1103@gmail.com **OR** 9833286267 (Regd. No. 6304)

**MUMBAI :** Karwari Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 57 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. CA, working as a Manager in Nationalised Bank. Contact email : esha.debbie@gmail.com **OR** 022-25542147 (Regd. No. 6303)

**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC Spinster aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 51 kgs, Wheatsh Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., coms, B.Ed., Teacher by profession. Contact email : violet\_361@yahoo.com **OR** 9969663045 (Regd. No. 6273)

**MUMBAI :** East Indian RC Spinster, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 64 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working, Contact email : mariashgo24@gmail.com **OR** 9819524367 / 9920102623 (Regd. No. 6246)

**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC Spinster, aged 22 years, Ht. 5', Wt. 45 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., working as a HR. Contact email : andrewvds1972@gmail.com **OR** 9821639989 (Regd. No. 6245)

**MUMBAI :** Tamilian RC Spinster, aged 29 years, Ht. 5', Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. 12th std., working as a sales girl in Big Store. Contact Mob.: 9665414592 (Regd. No. 6240)

**MUMBAI :** Parents of R.C. Spinster 24 yrs, Fair Compexion, 5' 2", B.Com., MBA (Fin.) pursuing her B.Ed., also working for her fly business. Seeking alliance from well qualified bachelor

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**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5', Wt. 48 kgs, Fair Complexion, good looking, Edn. B. Com., Working with TCS. Contact email : byareeta\_scorpio1988@yahoo.co.in **OR** 8879868217 (Regd. No. 6238)

**MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 28 years, Ht. 5', Wt. 68 kgs, Fair Complexion, good looking, Edn. B.Com., Working for Dimond Company. Contact email : dsouzanancy87@gmail.com **OR** 9987769662 (Regd. No. 6235)

**PUNE :** Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 82 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.A. working with MNC as HR. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : minin1958@hotmail.com **OR** 9860097450 (Regd. No. 6132)

**6131. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 25 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 72 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Diploma in Fin. App. working as a Sr. Executive in Finance Company. Seeks a educated and well settled bachelor Ht. above 5' 8". Contact email : jovy.rodriques@gmail.com **OR** 9769440351 (Regd. No.6131)

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**MUMBAI** : Tamilian RC Spinster, aged 30 years, Ht. 4' 10", Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a CRE, Contact email daisy.dec1@gmail.com OR 7507899111 (**Regd. No. 6129**)

**MUMBAI** : Karwari RC Spinster, aged 40 years, looks young, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 59 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA, working as a Manager in Petroleum Company. Contact email : carolng@hpcl.co.in OR 022-25542147 (**Regd. No. 6302**)

**MUMBAI** : Goan RC Spinster, aged 31 years. Ht. 5' 2", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. HSC, working as a Chef in Qatar. Contact email : venitadsouza1986@yahoo.co.in / jddsouza007@gmail.com OR 9892071067 (**Regd. No. 6115**)

**INDORE** : Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 39 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 53 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Com., well settled. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : seema\_francis@rediffmail.com OR 09827011122 (**Regd. No. 6114**)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Syrian Orthodox Christian Spinster, 33 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 62 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA, B.Com., working as a Programmer in IT Software. Contact email : rrdrgues@gmail.com / rfrancis\_55@yahoo.com OR 9167135860 (**Regd. No. 6111**)

**NEW PANVEL** : Mangalorean RC Spinster, 30 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Working as a Sr. Accountant. Contact email : slobo2283@yahoo.co.in OR 9819643183 (**Regd. No. 6109**)

**MIRAJ** : Maharastrian Protestant Spinster, 30 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.D.S., (Dentist), Lecturer in Dental College. Contact email : dprebentisch@hotmail.com OR 0233-

2211495 (**Regd. NO. 6108**)

**MUMBAI** : East Indian RC Spinster, 25 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 45 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working. Contact email: dsdece@gmail.com (**Regd. No. 6107**)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean RC Spinster, 26 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 66 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA in Hospital Management, working as an Asst. Manager Operations. Seeks a well settled match. Contact email : irenealban@yahoo.com OR 022-25777199 (**Regd. No. 6106**)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean RC Spinster, 29 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 73 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as an Advisor. Seeks a well settled Mangalorean Bachelor. Contact email : renita.cabral@rediffmail.com (**Regd. No. 6104**)

**KOLKATA** : Roman Catholic Spinster, 27 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 75 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBBS, MD (PAED), Doctor by profession. Seeks a simple, qualified, preferably Doctor, adjustable, good family background. Contact email : geraldinesawney@yahoo.com OR 9331220504 (**Regd. No. 6102**)

**HYDERABAD** : Anglo Indian RC Spinster, 28 years, Ht. 5', Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., Computer Science, working for a reputed Indian company. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : aparna.nirmal@yahoo.co.in OR 9652464648 (**Regd. No. 6101**)

**MUMBAI** : Tamilian Roman Catholic Spinster aged 27 years, Ht. 5' 7", Average built, Tan Complexion, Edn. Dip. in Hotel Management, Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : salexander172@gmail.com OR 9158622614 (**Regd. No. 6013**)

**NAVI-MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B. Com., employed as an Admin., Contact Email : sonaldabhi0@gmail.com OR Mob: 9820579253 (**Regd. No. 6011**)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 35 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A.,

employed as a Secretary. Contact : Mob: 9833120168 (**Regd. No. 6010**)

**MUMBAI** : Goan R.C. Spinster, aged 30 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, B.Com., working as a SME, Seeks sober, well settled bachelor. Contact email : megna.fernandes@gmail.com OR 9820264984 (**Regd. No. 6007**)

**MUMBAI** : Goan R.C. Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 60 kgs, Tan Complexion, Edn. B.Sc + PGDQA, working as a QA Personnel in Pharmaceutical, Seeks a good looking, understanding, responsible, well settled bachelor. Contact email : renmail1987@yahoo.co.in OR 9892394604 (**Regd. No. 6006**)

**AHMEDABAD** : Goan R.C. Spinster, Wheatish, slim, good looking, aged 29 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 49 kgs, Edn. B.A., PGDMFI, Pursuing MBA, working as a Senior Officer in Bank. Seeks a educated, well settled bachelor from decent and respectable family. Contact email : steffi8138@gmail.com / jerrypeter02@yahoo.com OR 079-22162694 (**Regd. No. 6004**)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 27 years, Ht. 4' 8", Wt. 45 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA., working as a HR. Contact email : jnoronha\_55@yahoo.com OR 8806890197 (**Regd. No. 5977**)

**NAVIMUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 57 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Sc. (Mathematics), B.Ed., Lecturer by profession. Contact email : valerianp.sequeira@gmail.com / rohan@sib.co.in OR 8976104700 (**Regd. No. 5976**)

**POONA** : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 56 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA (Mktg & Intl Bus) working as a Lead Marketing. Contact email : mbpune85@gmail.com / lynette.borges@gmail.com OR 9881134217 (**Regd. No. 5974**)

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