

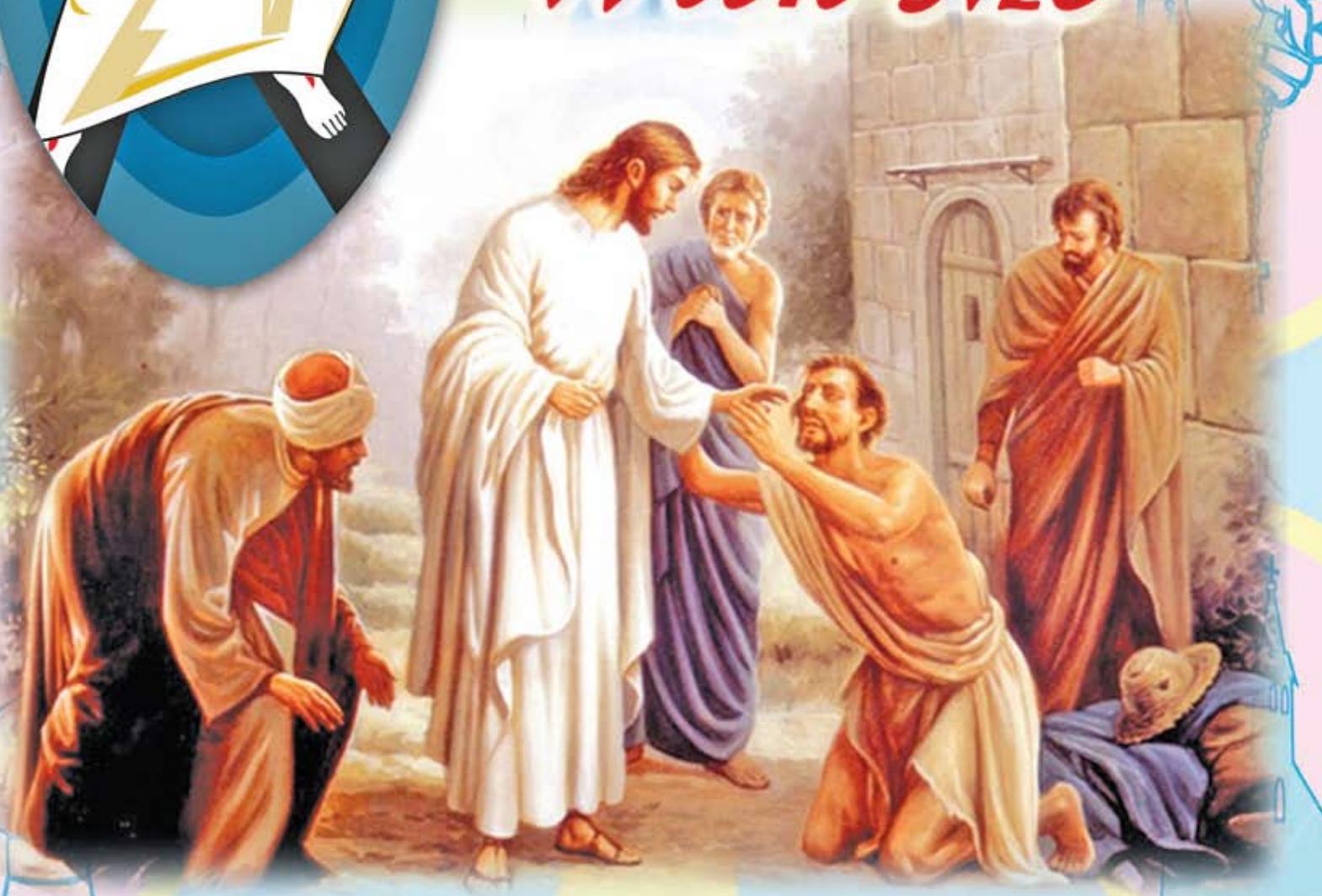
# THE SECULAR CITIZEN

(Total pages 24)

A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY

Vol.25 No.4 ■ Mumbai, January 25, 2016 ■ Rs. 5

## Footsteps Walking With Me



# Governor Ch Vidyasagar Rao Inaugurated RYAN's 14th International Children's Festival

Governor of Maharashtra H.E, Governor Ch Vidyasagar Rao Inaugurated 14th International Children's Festival of Performing Arts at Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi Shanmukhananda Auditorium, King Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai on Friday, 7th January 2016.

The Children's Festival has been organized by the Ryan International Group of Institutes. Fifteen Thousand (12,000) School children from vari-

ous countries of the world including with India are participating in the festival.

Dr Augustine Pinto, Chairman, Ryan International Group of Institutions, Madam Grace Pinto, Managing Director, Ryan A.Pinto, CEO, Juhi Chawla, Divya Datta, Saroj Khan from Bollywood, Kiran Shantaram, former Sheriff of Mumbai, Ms Shaina N.C, Fashion



Designer were Present on the Dias. Utkarsh Marwa Festival Director and other eminent persons will be present on the occasion. j

—Rons Bantwal



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**'Thought for the week'**

*Do something today that your future self will thank you for*

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**Subscriptions Rate:**

- One year (anywhere in India) Rs. 250
- Three years (anywhere in India) Rs. 700
- Five years (anywhere in India) Rs. 1000

One year (outside India) Rs. 2500

**E-paper Edition**

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- Two years Rs. 1000 or US \$ 25

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**15 Crucial Lessons India Needs To Learn From Delhi's Odd-Even Experiment**

by Richard Mahapatra

- 1. Emergency situation needs emergency measure:** Delhi is facing one of the worst spells of air pollution this winter. The odd-even measure is a fitting response to such an emergency situation. Analysis already shows that the 15-day car-control measures have curtailed pollution.
- 2. Public participates if politicians show will:** The evident acceptance of the experiment despite early apprehensions shows that people are willing to become sensible participants if those in power show the will to take tough measures. The experiment has immense lessons for the rolling out of schemes which need public participation.
- 3. If people participate, politicians support:** In India, every executive decision leads to political polarisation wherein opposing parties oppose for the sake of opposition. The odd-even experiment is no exception. But barely three days into the experiment, the Opposition pledged their unconditional support. Elsewhere in the country, ruling politicians declared similar efforts in urban areas.
- 4. The convenience v inconvenience lesson on governance:** Arvind Kejriwal's anti-corruption drive, which brought him into the limelight, didn't enjoy as much sustained support as his odd-even experiment did. It seems that people saw air pollution as a huge health risk or inconvenience and, thus, bartered away the convenience of driving to work for cleaner air.
- 5. Public mass transport is still the way out:** The odd-even experiment showed that if the public transport system is improved, people will opt for it. During the 15 days, the government deployed almost 4,000 extra buses. It was a rare sight to see buses which were not too crowded despite a big chunk of private cars being off roads.
- 6. DTC is capable:** The experiment showed that with rationalisation of routes and less congestion, the much maligned Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) can be effective. DTC has about 4,712 buses. But its utilisation during 2014-15 has been only 83.99 percent against the 85.5 percent in 2013-14. This is much worse compared to what state transport undertakings have achieved in other cities—95 percent in Bengaluru and Chandigarh. At any given point of time, at least 400 to 500 buses stand unutilised in Delhi's depots due to poor maintenance or missed trips. This number of unutilised buses is equal to the total bus fleet in smaller cities. Reports show that during the experiment, the depots were almost empty.
- 7. Decongestion is the starting point for cleaning the air:** Post-analysis scientific data will vouch for the experiment's impact on air quality. But for the aam admi, the impacts are clear—fewer cars on roads mean a smooth ride, thus avoiding the unnecessary burning of fuels while being stuck in traffic jams. Also, less traffic means the public bus system ran more buses in a day.
- 8. Pollution did come down; so fewer vehicles on roads are desirable:** An analysis carried out by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has shown that this winter, of all the severe smog episodes so far (with several consecutive days in severe category), the peak pollution during the odd-even programme has been the lowest. This shows that despite the

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(Contd.. from p. 3)

hostile weather conditions—no wind, temperature dip and western disturbance—peak pollution during the odd and even scheme was much lower. The earlier smog episodes have seen much higher peaks and much more rapid build-up compared to the rise during the first week of January.

**9. There is a sense of participation in solving one of the biggest challenges of modern times:** During the experiment, the pollution load from cars was lower; per capita emissions of car users were also low. Data with CSE shows that both the particulate and nitrogen oxide load from cars reduced substantially during the odd-even programme—by as much as 40 percent. A higher share of pollution benefits have come from a reduction in diesel cars.

**10. Reduced exposure to toxic pollution from vehicles on roads and in the vicinity:** It is estimated by the US-based Health Effect Institute that the maximum impact of vehicular pollution is up to 500 metres from the road side and 55 percent of Delhi's population lives within that zone. This has serious public health implications. Studies by researchers of the University of California, Berkeley, have shown that in Delhi, the pollution level on the road and close to the road is at least 1.5 times higher and peaks 15 times higher than the ambient concentration.

**11. A CNG-fuelled bus is a global warming fighter:** The user of a single occupancy petrol car meeting Bharat Stage IV standards can reduce per capita particulate emissions per kilometre by at least two times by using a CNG bus. The benefit will be higher if the shift is from cars meeting older emissions norms.

The user of single occupancy diesel car meeting Bharat Stage IV norms can reduce per capita particulate emissions per kilometre by at least 40 times by using a CNG bus. If the shift is from a diesel SUV, the reduction will double.

**12. Tax the cars more than the public buses:** Enhanced media focus on the experiment brought out the crucial fact that public transport buses are taxed more than private cars. It is an environmental injustice or say, an incentive for pollution. However, it is heartening to know that the judiciary has taken steps to fix this.

**13. The demand for better public transport rises:** As the city returned to roads without odd-even restrictions on January 16, there is going to be increased awareness and, thus, consequent demand for more public transport facilities.

**14. Politicians see electorates:** The success of the experiment because of public participation has rung electoral alarms.

**15. Public health is back on the agenda:** The experiment worked because the threat to public health is real and people have already suffered. It was rolled out with public health as the main issue. This means the country's capital has set an example by putting public health under the lens.

Courtesy: Down To Earth

## What Happens To The Ordinary Citizen When The Government Is Busy Pleasing The Majority?

by Nijam Gara

Just a few weeks ago, the Al Jazeera English news channel interviewed Ram Madhav, General Secretary of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Mainstream media picked up on his foolhardy comments about “Akhand Bharat” but conveniently ignored his other remark that gave a much deeper insight into the fundamentalist's mind. When asked by the interviewer, “Why does the citizen of a country not have any rights?” Madhav said, “We don't look at it that way!” He elaborated that the citizens “must earn the goodwill” of the numerically strong majority groups and implied it's not the government's responsibility to protect its citizens' lives. This stream of thought comes from the same right-wing locus (‘lotus’, rather) that made the venerated ‘moderate’ Atal Bihari Vajpayee say “Who lit the fire? How did the fire spread?” in the wake of Gujarat carnage of 2002 and made Narendra Modi invoke Newton in the same context saying “for every action there is an opposite reaction.”

It is noteworthy that all of these comments are made by people who are running a government at the time they were made, and not by mere fringe elements. That speaks volumes about their attitudes towards the ideas of government and governance. Their thrust is on the ‘duties’ of an individual as a member of a group (religious in this context) but not on the inalienable rights that a citizen of a nation-state possesses by virtue of being born in a country. In other words, you are on your own if you ‘offend’ the sentiments of the majority, do not expect your government to safeguard your lives. This explains why Mohammed Akhlaq was ‘rightfully’ lynched for eating mutton, M.M. Kalburgi was murdered in cold blood, and maybe next time Sriram Sena will run amok on Valentine's

day thrashing teenage girls on the streets of our “next gen” metros.

Let us apply these same principles laid out so eloquently by Ram Madhav in other contexts. Why does the Modi government not let the corporate companies “earn the goodwill” of the majority farmers in the country rather than trying to tinker with the Land Acquisition Bill? Here, the government is more than pro-active in pursuing the interests of the corporate cronies in the name of ‘development’. Guess the majority here is the moneyed corporate and not the pauper farmer!

Why is the central government so keen on enforcing its will in making Gajendra Chauhan the chairman of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) against the persistent protests of majority of the students of the institute? Again, what happened to “earning goodwill” of the students?

The ideas of “Swacch Bharat” and “Beti bachao, selfie kheecho” can also be seen of this same mindset that puts the onus on the citizen rather than striking at the root causes with the help of the enormous clout and constitutional machinery that is in the hands of a democratically elected government. Both problems will solve themselves if governments sincerely work towards poverty alleviation through meaningful welfare schemes rather than constantly harping on failed capitalistic ideas.

In essence, Article 21 of our constitution guarantees the right to “protection of life and personal liberty” and it is the duty of the government leaders to abide by their sworn oath. Too bad, our current heads the State seem to think otherwise!



## In the Year of Mercy the church must show the way

Following an appeal by the Bhiwandi Municipal Corporation (situated on the outskirts of Mumbai), Muslim clerics are now urging their followers to participate in the national anti-polio campaign. The minority community was suspicious of vaccines believing that there was a hidden agenda behind the campaign viz rendering them infertile, thus checking the growth of their population. Now the maulanas have dispelled these unfounded fears.

Clerics are held in high esteem and wield considerable influence over their followers, in our country. Appeals in religious places by clerics for social, charitable and even civic causes can evoke huge responses. Blood and organ donations, campaigns against hunger and diseases, environmental and civic issues like the Swacch Bharat campaign can take off in a big way with a little help from religious bodies.

On a Sunday, an appeal was made for a good cause in my parish (Orlem, Malad). On a single day Rs 43 lakhs was collected for the cause! Similarly, if an appeal for organ donations is made in the same church, at least 43 people will register on the spot. And if an appeal is made in all churches, temples, mosques and other religious places in the country the number of organ donors will be humongous.

—Prof Robert Castellino  
Orlem Mumbai

## Social Bonding For Good Health

An updated study was published by the Press Trust of India, on 5th Jan. 2016, titled: "Social Ties As Im-

portant As Exercise And Diet". This research conclusively links social habits such as sedentary lifestyles with obesity and hypertension; which lead to long term health problems such as coronary heart disease, stroke and cancer.

This protocol provides new insights into the physiological mechanisms that prolong life, but also demonstrates how 'social relationships' reduce health risks especially in late adulthood. The team led by Kathleen Mullan Harris, professor at University of North Carolina, USA reported that it should be as important to encourage young adults to build broad social interactions and social skills, as it is to eat healthy and exercise.

The medical team classified data from four representative surveys of the US population that covered the lifespan from adolescence to old age. They evaluated three dimensions of social relationships – social integration, social support and social strain. They correlated these with five key biological markers for mortality risks – blood pressure, waist circumference, body mass index, LDL cholesterol, and C-reactive protein.

In the 'final analysis' it became abundantly clear that health providers should redouble their efforts to educate the public about the importance of 'social bonds' for a healthy long life! Therefore, Jesus exhorted us to communicate: "Love your enemies, and even do good to them" (Matthew 5:44).

—Dr. Trevor Colaso, *Bandra (West)*  
*(Now at Ashburn, VA, USA).*

## New Corporal works of Mercy in the Holy Year

Mrs Sheela Collaso, a resident of Vasai, north Mumbai, lost her 20-yr

old son Osden, in a motorbike accident. Even in the face of great personal tragedy, Sheela displayed heroic courage and magnanimity by donating her son's eyes, thus giving sight to two persons and enabling them to see the world for the first time. Sheela's selfless act, is in fact the very essence of the 'Year of Mercy' for Catholics, during which they are encouraged to do corporal works of mercy. A mother's gesture of donating her son's eyes must be seen as a supreme act of mercy.

The Lord said "I was hungry and you gave me to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me to drink...."(Matt 25:35).

In the Holy Year of Mercy the Lord will also say "I was blind and you gave me eyes to see, I was burnt and you clothed me with skin, I was on dialysis and you gave me a kidney, I was a goner and you gave me a liver, I was dying and you gave me a heart...".

—Prof Robert Castellino  
Mumbai.

## Respect the Nation

Republic Day is a day for us to celebrate with the hoisting of our national flag, recitation of our national anthem, singing patriotic songs and organising social and cultural events. On this day, we should also remember the sacrifices made by our various freedom fighters who bravely fought for the country's Independence and pay our due respect to them.

We celebrate India's 67th Republic Day on January 26, 2016. It was on this day in the year 1950, the Constitution of India came into force and our country was proclaimed as a Sovereign, Democratic Republic. The Constitution is the supreme document which governs our great country. Republic Day represents the true spirit of Independent India and marks the patriotic fervor of all Indians across the country who celebrates this event with great enthusiasm every year. The Constitution was adopted by the Indian Constituent Assembly on November 26, 1949 and came into effect on January 26, 1950.

—Jubel D'Cruz, *Dombivili*

# Footsteps Walking With Me

by Ninette D'souza

**W**hat is mercy? What is God's mercy? Is it just a forgiveness of sins? Is it for free or is there a heavy price to pay for it? Are occasional trips to the Confessional, enough to obtain it? All such thoughts, - childish, disturbing and more have been knocking on my mind, ever since the Year of Mercy was declared, by Pope Francis.

As I reflected on the what, how and why of God's mercy and its application in my life, I was led to the conclusion that as I live Life... along the way, I will surely experience disappointment, failure, frustration, fatigue, fear and every conceivable negative emotion, the evil one wants me to experience - That is when God's mercy will lift me high. He will be strong when I am weak. Allow me to substantiate this reasoning with 3 instances of my life.

In Sept 1991, I was diagnosed with the G.B. Syndrome (Guillian Barre Syndrome) which had a survival rate of, 1 in 10,000, then. Not much was known about it, except that it is a viral disease that attacks the muscles. My breakdown was very sudden with the leg muscles giving way within 24 hours, and others following suit, in the space of a week. As I lay prostrate on the bed, in the ICU of, Holy Family Hospital, my Diaphragm was the last muscle to collapse, which meant that with no time to waste on a Tracheostomy (that was done later) I had to be manually connected to a Respirator, in order to

**Almost 2 months of The Jubilee Year of Mercy are already over. At Sunday homilies and through other gatherings we keep hearing about this YOM. I've been wondering what it is and what is expected of us in understanding it. How are we expected to experience it? My reflections led me to share some very personal situations of my life. These are situations wherein I realized I had experienced God's love & mercy without even realising it.**

*Ninette D'Souza*

receive help in breathing, or I would have died. I lay in this state with tubes and machines surrounding me, for a month. After a few days of being in this decapacitated condition, I began to have convulsions. The attending doctors began suspecting Meningitis or Brain Fever. The prognosis was, that I would most likely not survive this new onslaught, and even if I did, I would end up a vegetable. Through all of this I think only my ear pinnae survived, ensuring that my hearing remained intact, because even my eyelid muscles had collapsed which meant that, I could not really sleep. My mind of course was working overtime and the only question it continually asked was, "Why me???" I was a young, much loved teacher, with a 2 year old adorable son, and a literal fan following of students, many of whom I taught at school, some of whom I coached at tuitions, and others whom I counselled in my spare time. GOD and PRAYER did not figure very high on my list of priorities. As I lay there not knowing what was in store for me, I was not even able to correspond with my family members, who were maintaining a round the clock vigil by my bedside, and tell them that somehow I wanted to connect with God. Guess what? No sooner had the thought left my mind than, my sister who was beside me whipped out a Prayer book

and began reciting the Rosary. (Today we PRAY the Rosary) As days passed, all my family members prayed Rosary after Rosary, went through every prayer and novena that was in that book and in many others, interspersing this with common hymns. While they prayed and sang aloud, I did too, in my heart, just trying to build a link with God, no matter how tenuous. My Creator saved me! If I close my eyes I can see the Dr. throwing down the latest blood report done on me (one of many) and hear him say to my husband, "It's a miracle Michael. There's absolutely nothing wrong with her. She'll be perfectly fine though it will take a while. I can't believe this. Which God did you pray to?" In my heart I said, 'My Lord and Saviour --- Jesus Christ'. I made it home a month and a half later on 20th Nov. With difficult yet consistent Physiotherapy, I began walking within a month, making it to Church on Christmas day and to visit the medical team at the ICU. I resumed normal life a month later, which I had been told would take 6 months to a year, re-joined school the following academic year and had my 2nd son 2 years later. God is Good???

You bet He is.

The Steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,

His mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning, new every morning,

Great is your faithfulness, O Lord,

Great is your faithfulness.

6years ago my unmarried maternal aunt who lives with my family, is like a mother to me and my husband, and who plays the role of grandmother to perfection, in the lives of my children collapsed with, ' Cardio myopathy' - a major heart collapse, while alone in the home. The incessant cawing of a crow, which sounded very much like 'call home', alerted my husband who was at work, at Andheri. (This may sound weird to many but not to animal lovers especially not to my husband who firmly believes that uncharacteristic animal behaviour is indicative of imminent mis-

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haps) On calling home and not receiving an answer on the landline, he called the neighbour and asked her to check up on aunt, only to be told that she was lying on the floor, semi-conscious. I believe that it was divine inspiration that led him to call our family doctor, who rushed home, gave her the necessary first aid and coordinated with a nearby nursing home to have her admitted in the ICU, all before my husband and I could get home. Even now I can't believe my aunt made it through, having been told that she was alive, due to the 3 injections she was receiving, every 8 hours. In fact the family was asked to make an informed choice, on whether to keep going in the same manner, for an indefinite length of time, or to pull the plug. Between my sister, cousin brother and me, we decided to continue with the status quo. God in his mercy responded generously, by not only stabilizing her within 24 hours and getting her off the injections, but he has brought her home to us where she continues to be the fulcrum, around which my home moves around, like clockwork. And that includes tending to my needs, those of my spouse and my teenage sons, of our 3 pet dogs and getting food organized to feed 8-9 stray dogs and around 12 cats in the colony. With a heart that is functioning at 20 %? a tall order one would think but hey ! Nothing is impossible where God's love and mercy abound.

Another 'breaking in of God' kind of experience I had was on March 29 last year, on Palm Sunday to be precise. My 25 year old son who all morning was complaining of terrible discomfort and pain in the chest and abdomen, which seemed to be the effect of very bad acidity, had to be rushed to the same ICU, by late afternoon when the pain refused to abate, and breathing got more difficult. The 1st of many ECG's showed worrying trends. After praying over him later that evening, my priest friend asked me to get in touch, with a cardiologist he had confidence in. Multiple messages and calls back and forth, encouraged me to force the RMO, to do the TROPONIN Test (release of troponin T and I proteins in the blood when a heart muscle has been damaged due to a heart attack ... in lay man's terms). When the test that was repeated in a

space of 2 hours returned both results positive, it confirmed the answer to the heart wrenching question that I had been trying to keep at bay, "Why my son?????" Much of what transpired after that is a blur. But around 11pm, I do remember being asked to purchase a lifesaving injection, that also came with a 30% fatality risk, and signing the consent form. Next morning as if on Auto mode, and feeling like I was existing on a plane, different from the one my son was on, I left with an image of him, surrounded by tubes and machines, imprinted on my mind. I made it through a short time of prayer in school, then a visit to my SSC Moderator to hand over the remaining assessed answer sheets and associated paper work, and back to the hospital, not knowing what to expect, and without saying anything concrete to anyone, because the truth had yet to sink into my own heart. After a couple of days when his breathing had stabilized, and he was out of the ICU, the attending cardiologist suggested, we have an Angiography done, just to assure ourselves that the blockage had been removed and that no more damage had been done. Imagine our consternation when during the procedure at S.L. Raheja Hospital, Mahim, we discovered that his Aorta was 80 % blocked and that he needed to have an Angioplasty done, failing which his next collapse would be fatal. After 3 monthsof minimal physical movement, and a strict diet we went back for a check-up, expecting a thumbs up for resumption of normal life. Each time I see in my mind's eye my son's reaction to the doctors' prognosis, that despite all medications and precautions, due to the irreparable damaged heart muscle, his heart was functioning only at 40% and will continue to do so always, instead of the 60% - 65% that was expected, my eyes well up. He has not only had to make a complete career change, but has to live with the knowledge that although he can do all things his peers do, it is limited to 50%. It's been a difficult 10 months for the family as we have slowly gotten to accepting this fact. It has also been a time of discovering true friends, recognizing the importance of family, and above all, submitting to God's plan. My son often gets depressed, and complains

that, Life has dealt him a rough hand, but each time I think of what we have been through, my body tingles with the realization of, the fragility of life. Then in the stillness of my heart, I am reminded for the umpteenth time that, God walks with me every step of the way, and He teaches me in ways so different but so abundantly clear, that He is in charge of my life and the lives of those I love.

I have shared just 3 instances where Divine Providence has taken control of the messy reality in my life. There have been many more, from the simple, (which many might term as coincidence, but I know differently) to the sublime. In the midst of all the confusion that Life brings, I have realized that the sovereign God of the Universe, knows our needs and has His plans for them. He is aware of our troubled today's and our uncertain tomorrow's. He promises that He will not only be there to greet us, as we venture into one new circumstance after another, but also will be there, holding our hand, walking with us though this journey called, Life. No truer promise was ever made!!!!

So with utmost confidence I go about my daily chores, signing along with Daniel O'Donnell:

'Footsteps walking with me, footsteps I cannot see, but every move I make and every step I take, I know they're there with me. They walk with me all the way, beside me day by day, through good and bad, through happy and sad, those footsteps won't go away.'

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# The Gift that is India

**"Lo ! I have flung to the East and the West  
Priceless treasures torn from my breast,  
And yielded the sons of my stricken womb  
To the drum-beats of the duty, the sabers of doom."  
—Sarojini Naidu in "The Gift of India"**



BY VERA ALVARES

Defining India as, "a Sovereign, Democratic, Socialist, Secular Republic", the Constitution emphasises on the power vested in the people through the rights and duties mentioned within. Though the terms 'Socialist and Secular' were inserted later through the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1976, they spell out a need in the present conditions prevalent in the country. All these terms used are comprehensive, co-related and complementary to each other. A sovereign State is the one that administers its own government, not dependent upon or subject to another power. Democracy means "a government by the people in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised directly by them or by their elected agents under a free electoral system." In the phrase of Abraham Lincoln, democracy is a government "of the people, by the people, and for the people." The term socialist implies social and economic equality among the people. Social equality in this context means the absence of discrimination on the grounds of caste, colour, creed, sex, religion, or language. Secularism in India means equal treatment of all religions by the state and NO RELIGION to be patronized by the government. Unlike the Western concept of secularism which envisions a separation of religion and state, the concept of secularism in India envisions acceptance of religious laws as binding on the state, and equal participation of state in different religions. A republic is a sovereign state or country which is organised with a form of government in which power resides in elected individuals representing the body of citizens and the government exercises power according to the rule of law. In modern times, the definition of a republic is commonly limited to a government which excludes a monarch.

The Constitution of India opens with a preamble very clearly summarizing the hopes and aspiration of Indians as well as the ideals that direct the country. The **preamble** can be referred to as the preface which highlights the essence of the entire Constitution. It begins thus—  
**We, the People of India having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Demo-**

**A**fter the Pathankot tragedy, any kind of public celebration at this time may seem to be an affront to the sacred memory of the brave sons of India martyred there. As Sarojini Naidu, the nightingale of India aptly says, the mothers and families of these and many other soldiers, have lost 'priceless treasures' to the call of the country, 'the gift of India'. No citizen needs to wear patriotism on his sleeve to feel that India is a gift to all Indians, a gift to be loved, cherished and enjoyed. This sentiment is meant to be prominently reflected as we celebrate Republic Day on 26th January this year, with the usual pomp and fervour!

Though India was freed from British rule on August 15, 1947, it declared itself 'a Sovereign, Democratic, Republic' State with the adoption of the Indian Constitution on January 26, 1950. The Constitution paves the way for Democracy as it gives the citizens of India the right and power to choose their own government to rule the country. Young Indians may be astonished to learn that the first copy of the Constitution was not printed, but handwritten and calligraphed in Hindi and English. The song 'Abide with Me' is played on every Republic Day in memory of Mahatma Gandhi, the 'Father of the Nation' who sacri-

ficed his everything, even his life, to secure freedom for India. This hymn was his favourite one.

January 26 occupies a special place in the History of the freedom fight in India. Under Mahatma Gandhi's moral and political leadership, the National Congress passed the 'Purna Swaraj', resolution demanding complete independence from British rule in December 1929. Gandhiji organized nationwide celebrations on 26 January 1930 to celebrate it as Independence Day. From then on, the Nation took a pledge on this day every year to carry on the freedom struggle till we attained it. 21 years later, a salute of 21 guns and the unfurling of the Indian National flag by Dr. Rajendra Prasad heralded the historic birth of the Indian Republic on January 26, 1950! Since then, every year the day is celebrated with great pride and happiness all over the nation.

The Constitution of India came into force on 26 January, 1950 Indian Republic Day. Citizens of India ought to know this source of their power that assures them a free and civilized existence in this country. The Constitution of India, the supreme law of India, is a living document, the permanent instrument which makes the government system work justly. It lays down the framework defining fundamental political principles, establishes the structure, procedures, powers and duties of government institutions and sets out fundamental rights, directive principles for the State and duties of citizens. It is the longest written constitution of any sovereign country in the world. Though Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar is regarded as the chief architect of the Indian Constitution, it was the Constituent Assembly that worked under Dr Ambedkar and his team that drafted the final copy of the Indian Constitution, adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26 November 1949, and put into effect on 26 January 1950.

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**cratic, Republic and to secure to all its citizens;**  
**Justice, social, economic, political;**  
**Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;**  
**Equality of status and opportunity; and to promote among them all;**  
**Fraternity, assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation;**  
**In our Constituent Assembly this, twenty sixth day of November 1949 do hereby Adopt, Enact and Give to ourselves this Constitution.**

Assurance of Justice, liberty, equality and fraternity are the cornerstones on which the foundation of this Democracy rests. Any threat to this assurance would be a threat to the "Akhand Bharat" (cohesive, un-fractured, whole India) nature of the country. It is also noteworthy that by the 42nd Amendment, the term 'Secular' was incorporated in the Preamble simply to make the secular nature of the Indian Constitution more explicit. As a State, India gives special status to NO religion. There is no such thing as a state religion of India. India guarantees equal freedom to all religions which enjoy equality of status and respect.

Attempts to bypass or misinterpret the Constitution can be a pointer to how the people's power is eroding. Media reports periodically indicate that the Constitutional assurances may not be conducive to the agenda of some fringe elements in society. The Republic Day in January 2015 was witness to this. An advertisement issued by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, which used an image of the preamble of the Indian Constitution without the words 'secular and socialist' sparked off a furore on social media. Though the preamble of the Indian constitution states "We, the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a sovereign socialist secular democratic republic...". But the advertisement read "We, the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a sovereign democratic republic..." the words "socialist, secular", added to the Preamble through the 42nd Constitution Amendment Act in 1976 were missing!

The omission came to light in an iron-

ic manner! President of the US Barack Obama, invited to the ceremony spoke at the Siri Fort Auditorium in Delhi and said that upholding religious freedom was the responsibility of the Indian government. "Every person has the right to practice his faith without persecution, fear or discrimination," he said. Obama, who was delivering the final speech of his three-day trip to India, said, "In both our countries, in all countries, upholding this fundamental freedom is the responsibility of government, but it's also the responsibility of every person."

So the Constitution directs the socio-economic transformation of an India whose civilization has celebrated pluralism, advocated tolerance and promoted goodwill between diverse communities. It is deeply felt that these values need to be preserved with utmost care and vigilance for the good of the country. The scathing verbal attacks on any section of people harm the secular fabric of India. Gandhiji said that the violence of the tongue cuts and wounds people's hearts and religion which is a force for unity cannot be made into a cause of conflict. Our national ambition is to raise the quality of life of Indians by quantum leaps and raise generations enlightened by learning, patriotism, compassion, honesty and a sense of duty. How true! Thomas Jefferson had also said "Educate and inform the whole mass of the people..... They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty".

The present political system can breed corruption which knaws at the very roots of Democracy, especially corrupt practices that gain acceptance by a hapless citizenry forced to live by rules laid down by those in power. Lack of will to check this rampant corruption gives rise to political apathy, broken only during election time. Electoral premises are not kept, party manifestos are relegated to the archives and the hopes of the citizens shattered brutally. Human rights are violated, freedoms are curtailed, and even justice is delayed if not denied. So where is the power of the people the Constitution promises? India needs to wake up to the fact that the right to vote once in five years and vote for the better of the worst does not translate into Democracy!

Is Indian democracy in danger? Veteran journalist Kuldip Nayar sometime ago said that there was a large threat to the na-

tion from communalism and parochialism. He reminds us, "At one prayer meeting, Mahatma Gandhi said he wanted India to become a country where there was no distinction between men. He said one of his eyes was Hindu while the other was Muslim. How many of us can say it in the open and mean it today?" While pointing out that the time had come for the civil society to speak up, the journalist added, "The larger question we all should ask is how we can rescue the democracy from their (politicians') hands."

The enlightened youth of this country known to be alert and proactive, has reacted to many unjust happenings in the country with raised voices. The recent happenings in Pathankot, and Malda, that hint of a betrayal for selfish political gains, cast a shadow on the performances of respective governments in those States. The merciless mowing down of a young Air-Force Corporal by a youth drunk on power is another example of how the political class rises up to shield their own. Indian States such as the Punjab and West Bengal are on the boil with rising problems of drug and immigrants. Politician-builder nexus in some States results in laws that curtail the rights and freedom of citizens. Are the Directive principles from the Constitution that dictate government functions considered when governments fail the people thus? If priority is given to maintaining vote banks and appeasing electoral partners at the cost of honest, good governance, India will be on its way to becoming to banana republic!

However, the fact remains that if the citizens fail to protect their right to various freedoms assured to them in the Constitution of India, this trend of reducing us to non-entities in our own Motherland will gain momentum!

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Prop. B. D'Souza

# A Letter to the Railway Minister



To, The Railway Minister, / Railway Authorities  
Government Of India, New Delhi.

Dear Sir,

We the Small Seasonal Tour Operators initially were very happy that from our very Own Maharashtra , Mr. Prabhu-ji , was appointed by our Prime Minister Modiji to head the Railway Ministry. At that time our joy new no bounds, that here is a learned practical person who will give justice to everyone and make the Railways into profit making body.

But we regret, to inform you Sir, that our joy remained only for a short time, just like a Soda bottle when opened has gas in it, but later on fizzles out within a short time. The domestic tourist are also dwindling / falling as you must have notice.

## **The reasons are many as given under:-**

1) Earlier to book the outstation railway ticket the period was 2 months prior to the departure but now it is 4 months period. That means, one has to pay to the railways, for a ticket 4 months in Advance.

Suppose a ticket cost you Rs 1000=00 one way then for two ways one has to spend Rs.2000=00. That means the tourist has to lose two months interest and the retired Senior citizens whose life saving is deposited in the bank and would like to enjoy going out for holidays has to forgo 2% interest in this days of high standard of living due to rise in prices.

2) Secondly, if one is going on a pkg. tour, now one will have to pay 4 to 5 months in advance to the tour operator. Suppose he is taking an advance of Rs.10,000=00 per person. Then a family of 4 person has to spend in advance Rs, 40,000=00. Calculate the rate of interest one has to forfeit.

The tour operator in returned pay an advance to bus operators, railways, hotels for lodging and boarding

The transport operator who is plying cars and buses will not give the rate for the simple reason, the oil prices are fluctuating, and therefore he can't give the exact fare. yet he will demand advance payment

The hotelier's will not give you the tariff as far as the hotel is concerned because they go on changing/ fixing the tariff as per

the Central / State budget & they will not give the lodging and the boarding charges because the oil & veg. prices go on fluctuating. But they will take the advance, by giving us the threat that they will not be responsible if somebody pays the advance and book the dates.

The students, especially the college students will not be in position to tell their parents when the board exams will start or finish. so how will the parents fix the day for holidays 4 months in advance?

The employee will not know when his boss will sanction his leave? Who will gain the business class & who will be the looser the Aam adhmi. Now U know the party is ruling and for whom?

We hope better counsel prevails and the railways return back to 2 months for booking railway tickets making the railway travellers happy once again.

## **Starting Of New Trains**

The Railways must start more trains to Jammu Tawi because of heavy rush to Vaishno Devi , Amarnath Yatra & Kashmir . The Jammu Tawi- Bandra Swaraj Express should be made to run daily especially during April to June due to heavy rush of devotees as well as tourist, instead of 3 times a week. It will give a good relief to the devotees as well as the tourist. Otherwise one sees jammed packed sleeper coaches where senior citizens face tough time/ hardship making way to walk to go to toilets. Sometimes one finds scores of people entering the coach without proper tickets.

Similarly, more daily super fast trains to and fro, should be started From Mumbai to Trivandrum and to HOWRAH during summer season. .

It is surprising Chandigarh being the capital of two states and having tourist spots, the railways don't run good services daily from Mumbai during Summer and Winter Vacations during day time.

Even though, there are few trains going from Mumbai to Trivandrum. There are no daily super fast trains. Besides the local white collar people board the reserved compartments in Kerala ( creating hardship to the genuine travellers) to reached their offices as there are no local trains. We failed to understand why the railways not thinking of starting local trains especially from Ernakulam to Thirunathapuram.

Another gesture the railways must do is to start daily super fast train (To and Fro) to Valainkanni Railway Station ( Tamil Nadu) from mumbai. It will send a good signal to the catholics that you care for the minorities.

## Stay connected

Mother is flying a kite. Her son is watching her carefully.

After some time son says "mom. Because of the string the kite is not able to go any further higher."

Hearing this, the mother smiles and breaks the string. The kite goes higher and then shortly after that, it comes and falls on the ground.

The child is very dejected and sad.

The mother sits next to him and calmly explains: "Son, in life we reach a certain level and then we feel that there are certain things that are not letting us grow any further like Home, Family, Friends, Culture etc. We feel we want to be free from those strings which we believe are stopping us from going higher. But, remember son. "That our home , family, friends and culture are the things that will help us stay stable at the high heights . If we try to break away from those strings our condition will be similar to the kite. "we'll fall down soon.."

Moral: "Never go away from home culture, family, friends and relationships as they help keep us stable while we are flying high."

Life is Beautiful

### Do you know that?

New Year's Day is the oldest of all holidays. About 4000 years ago, the Babylonians celebration lasted for eleven days.

— Jubel D'Cruz, Mumbai

We hope the Railways would look into the genuine problems of the local tourists as well as the domestic tour operators

Thank you

Yours Faithfully

**Herbert D.Barretto**

**Prop. Barretto Tours**

## Acid Test for Indo-Pak relations

The daring attack on the Pathankot airbase by the terrorists from across the border, earlier this month, has shocked the nation and has shaken the Modi government no end. Our Prime Minister thought that by going to Pakistan to wish his counterpart to greet him on his birthday and give him some gifts may be, would melt the hardened hearts and see the futility of being on a collusion course with this country. With some whispers in Paris to handshakes [by the external affairs minister – Sushma Swaraj] in Pakistan and a warm hug by the two Prime Ministers as part of birthday wishes were viewed, by even skeptics, as a genuine thaw in the relationship of the two warring neighbours. What was once a big nation Akhand Bharat which included India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, now stands fragmented into three different countries. Though it is said that we cannot choose our neighbours, we could at least create them - first in 1947 and then in 1971. Now it is up to these countries to rewrite history and work for the genuine good of the millions of poor.

For that to happen, we need to build an atmosphere of mutual trust – something that is badly shaken especially between India and Pakistan. Post independence, and more particularly after the creation of Bangladesh in 1971, the trust level between the two neighbours has dipped significantly with the result neither is willing to believe the other. India understandably is at a disadvantage as there are fears of multiple power centers in Pakistan. Therefore what the Prime Minister of that country, howsoever genuine in his intentions, says there is never an element of finality. The humiliation of the Pak army in 1971 has left a bitter taste in the mouths of those in power and they look at every opportunity as a chance to take revenge.

The latest attack in Pathankot has put the western neighbour on test. Either act or be prepared for consequences. The Americans and the British supported the Indian concerns and asked Pak to act and act decisively. Pak realizing the futility of indulging in denials, decided to at least show that it is open to investigating the matter with Indian inputs. To what extent this proves their sincerity, only time will tell. It may be worth giving the devil his dues and appreciate the joint inves-

## IEWS on NEWS

tigations and the raids on offices of JeM. How far this initiative will go will interest this country. The attack on the Indian mission in Afghanistan has complicated matters. With that country's police chief saying that Pak army was behind that attack, the Indian government is more confused than ever before.

The usual argument of Pak has professed is, they too are victims of terrorism. True. They have suffered more but surely not at the hands of those who target India. Those inimical to India have been receiving support from the army and the ISI. Naturally, when they are in trouble, nothing can be done to them with their Godfathers around. The JeM boss has warned Pak that it will be in trouble if he is prosecuted or jailed. The attack on the Pak Mission in Afghanistan could be the handiwork of those snakes nurtured by Pak to bite the neighbours. The faster Pakistan accepts this reality, it is better for them.

*Pak is keen that the talks go on. Much as they may deny, they stand to benefit more than India from such engagement. It is a win-win situation for Pakistan. Once they get what they want out of these talks, nobody can stop them from going back to their old tricks. The Indian government is proceeding cautiously and perhaps that is the best way forward. It would be nice to review the position from time to time and keep the warring neighbour on tenterhooks all the time. A 'decisive action' by Pak in the Pathankot episode, will show how genuinely sincere it is and what evidence they present in court. The trial, if any, should be open and not in camera, like the 26/11.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Volatility in Kashmir politics

With the sad demise of the J & K Chief Minister Mufti Mohamad Sayeed the political climate in that State has become volatile. Normally, when there is a firm coalition in place, it is only natural that the senior partner names a successor to take over. Mehbooba is the shrewdest politician in the valley. Even when the NC offered unconditional support after the elections to form the government, she simply ignored. Now she is playing hard to get and send a firm message to the BJP – a veiled warning. Allowing the State to be



by Marshall Sequeira

placed under the President's rule was a clear move – a message to the BJP that their alliance is not permanent. It needs to be reworked on fresh terms which she will dictate.

The PDP in the last few months had taken some decisions which angered the BJP and it went public with its displeasure. This time around she wants to make sure that BJP will not embarrass them when they take decisions. She wants to stay in saddle right through so that BJP does not get a chance to undo things which they find uncomfortable if they get a chance to head the government. Unlike the BJP, the PDP has conveyed to the former that it is not hungry for power and can remain out of it, if needs be. That is a clear and unambiguous signal to the BJP that it cannot hope to rock the boat. Now the PDP is looking for unfettered freedom to pursue its own agenda in the Valley. This includes right to remain sympathetic to the separatist leaders, pampering them with State goodies etc. They want to turn a blind eye to the Pak flags every Friday.

*Shrewd as Mehbooba is, she has kept all the options open. She can change things at will if she does not have her way. Secondly, with Congress smelling a remote opportunity, Sonia finds it expedient to pay condolence visit to Mehbooba which has opened new avenues to the discomfort of the BJP. She may not go for this option anytime soon but the Damocles sword will be kept hanging over the BJP all the time. The BJP which had been vocal in the past, at least on issues which go against their ideology, will find it hard to go public on any issue. In a new twist, the National Conference has kept its doors open for BJP support should they chose to offer it, only to take a U turn. Was this offer 'induced' in any way? It had the desired effect on the PDP. It developed cold feet. After a marathon consultative meet lasting five hours it has been decided to go along with the BJP though the alliance will continue to be fragile.*

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# Migrants And Refugees Challenge Us!

January 17th is designated as the 'World Day of Migrants and Refugees'. The theme this year is 'Migrants and refugees challenge us. The response of the Gospel of Mercy'.

**W**riting on the theme Pope Francis states, "In our time, migration is growing worldwide. Refugees and people fleeing from their homes challenge individuals and communities, and their traditional ways of life; at times they upset the cultural and social horizons which they encounter. Increasingly, the victims of violence and poverty, leaving their homelands, are exploited by human traffickers during their journey towards the dream of a better future. If they survive the abuses and hardships of the journey, they then have to face latent suspicions and fear. In the end, they frequently encounter a lack of clear and practical policies regulating the acceptance of migrants and providing for short or long term programmes of integration respectful of the rights and duties of all. Today, more than in the past, the Gospel of mercy troubles our consciences, prevents us from taking the suffering of others for granted, and points out way of responding which, grounded in the theological virtues of faith, hope and charity, find practical expression in works of spiritual and corporal mercy."

In one stroke, we are challenged by the painful reality of the refugees of today and at the same time we are made to realise that we have but no choice but to do all we can to address one of the most serious problems of our world today.

When Angela Merkel the Chancellor of Germany threw open the doors of Germany (and also of Europe) to the refugees who were coming en masse to Germany, there was a natural wave of resentment from several of her country men and women and

also from other parts of Europe. She did not relent; though in recent days there are reports that she is slowly



giving in "to public pressure". On the other hand, we have a man like US Presidential hopeful Donald Trump who over and over again states that Muslim refugees should not be allowed into United States. The irony is that his ratings go up in the United States which is sworn to principles of democracy, equality and dignity of all men and women. Fortunately, Pope Francis has become a beacon of hope not only for refugees but for all men and women; some months ago he strongly expressed his desire that every Catholic Parish of Europe adopt at least one refugee family.

The refugee crisis today cannot be seen in isolation of powerful lobbies and other vested interests. The arms and ammunition industry plays a crucial role and so do mercenaries of every hue. There is very little political will in the world today to address the endemic causes of the refugee crisis; Pope Francis reminds us that these root causes include discrimination, racism, extreme nationalism and xenophobia.

It is important therefore that on a day dedicated to migrants and refugees,



BY FR. CEDRIC PRAKASH SJ

we commit ourselves whole-heartedly to address their plight and do all we can to ensure that our world becomes more humane, more just and more merciful for all – particularly to the migrants and refugees!

*\* (Fr. Cedric Prakash SJ is the Director of PRASHANT, the Ahmedabad-based Jesuit Centre for Human Rights, Justice and Peace.)*

## Thanksgiving



Thanks to  
Infant Jesus

for the favours granted  
—Veronica Fernandes, Mulund

# HANDBOOK 2016

## Health:

1. Drink plenty of water.
2. Eat breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince and dinner like a beggar.
3. Eat more foods that grow on trees and plants and eat less food that is manufactured in plants..
4. Live with the 3 E's -- Energy, Enthusiasm and Empathy .
5. Make time to pray.
6. Play more games .
7. Read more books than you did in 2015.
8. Sit in silence for at least 10 minutes each day
9. Sleep for 7 hours.
10. Take a 10-30 minutes walk daily. And while you walk, smile.

## Personality:

11. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
12. Don't have negative thoughts or things you cannot control. Instead invest your energy in the positive present moment.
13. Don't over do. Keep your limits.
14. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
15. Don't waste your precious energy on gossip.
16. Dream more while you are awake
17. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need..
18. Forget issues of the past. Don't remind your partner with His/her mistakes of the past. That will ruin your present happiness.
19. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone. Don't hate others.
20. Make peace with your past so it won't spoil the present.
21. No one is in charge of your happiness except you.
22. Realize that life is a school and you are here to learn. Problems are simply part of the curriculum that appear and fade away like algebra class but the lessons you learn will last a lifetime.
23. Smile and laugh more.
24. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree...

## Society:

25. Call your family often.
26. Each day give something good to others.
27. Forgive everyone for everything.
28. Spend time with people over the age of 70 & under the age of 6.
29. Try to make at least three people smile each day.

30. What other people think of you is none of your business.
31. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will. Stay in touch.

## Life:

32. Do the right thing!
33. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
34. GOD heals everything.
35. However good or bad a situation is, it will change..
36. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
37. The best is yet to come..
38. When you awake alive in the morning, thank GOD for it.
39. Your Inner most is always happy. So, be happy.

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# A Reflection On The Marian Dogmas



BY MELVYN BROWN



believe all the things which Muslims accept about Mary. The truth about the Virgin Mother of God is an irrevocable fact of the four Marian dogmas.

Before we focus our attention on the Marian dogmas, it is intriguing to know the things a certain theologian said about Mary. Who was the man?

“If Christ is ours, his mother is also ours.... Mary is the Mother of Jesus and the Mother of us all.... Here is the woman who is raised far above all women, indeed above the whole human race”. The theologian who said all the above about Mary, was Martin Luther, the “Father of Protestant Christianity”.

The Four Marian dogmas are: 1. Mary is the Mother of God. Her Divine Motherhood was proclaimed at the Council of Ephesus in 431. 2. Mary is a Perpetual Virgin. Her perpetual virginity was proclaimed at the Council of Latern 649. 3. Mary was immaculately conceived. Her Immaculate Conception was solemnly proclaimed by Pope Pius IX on the 8th December 1854. 4. Mary was bodily assumed into heaven. The Assumption was solemnly proclaimed by Pope Pius XII on the 1st November 1950.

Mary is God’s precious gift to the Church and a great intercessor for humankind. She is the spiritual mother who listens to us, watches over us and like any mother she protects us. Merciful Jesus has given us His Mother to comfort and strengthen us. Our reflection on the Marian dogmas goes deeper, so let us proclaim the message in the dogmas: God is love and He is merciful.

**T**he Catechism of the Catholic Church states: “The Church’s Magisterium exercises the authority it holds from Christ to the fullest extent when it defines dogma ...”

Instructions on the Catholic faith; the value of its doctrines, have been the light, strength and spiritual blessing for the Church and believers down the ages. Theologians and philosophers of Holy Mother the Church, including mystics and saints have pursued and encouraged teachings on the Virgin Mary.

Today, the Roman Catholic Church is proud to have gained for God’s faithful a whole new calculus over the years in definite declarations on Marian Dogmas. The gift of the Holy Spirit has also enlightened us with wisdom empowering God’s people with the truth of the Marian Dogmas.

“Dogmas are lights along the path of faith; they illuminate it and make it secure.” 89 (CCC).

We have known for over two thousand years that Mary is a Virgin chosen to be the Mother of Jesus. The cornerstone to our belief in Marian theology is the fact that the Mother of Christ is

of immaculate birth – now, a dogma eventually.

Contemplating Mariology, (the theological understanding of Mary) we consider Mary as a symbol of the Church. In the book of Genesis Mary is the new Eve. Mary, in giving birth to Jesus, the Redeemer, was instrumental in destroying sin, whereas, the Eve of the Old Testament was instrumental in the fall of man. Catholic devotion has great veneration to Mary ever Virgin.

The Marian dogmas can be discovered in the Gospels, in Tradition of the disciples, and with the help of the Holy Spirit the dogmas related to the Virgin Mary have borne great fruit in the Catholic faith and in Christian life. Many people of different cultures revere the Virgin Mary.

It is interesting to note that Muslim believers do not consider Jesus as Divine, yet, they accept the beliefs that Mary is of Immaculate Conception; the Virgin birth of Christ; her Assumption and that she intercedes for them. In the faith of Islam an entire chapter in the Koran is dedicated to Mary.

It is said that Protestants and Christians of other denominations do not



## Avoid wearing 'Army-pattern' dress, Army tells civilians

Chandigarh: The Army on Friday asked civilians to avoid wearing "Army-pattern" dresses

The Goa State Committee of All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) deeply condoles the death of the State's former Governor Lt. General J.F.R. Jacob (retired) who passed away at the Army Hospital in Delhi on Wednesday.

## "Holy Doors Of Mercy"

The main doors of Bandra's Mount Mary Church and Colaba's Holy Name Church have been declared "Holy Doors of Mercy". The doors will now become pilgrimage site for Catholics to walk through asking for grace, purification and forgiveness from sins. Until now there was only one holy door of mercy at the Vatican. Last week opening of the doors was announced. Remission of sins can be gained by walking through these holy doors. No one should say that it is difficult to reach God and difficult to obtain mercy for the Church is indeed the vehicle of mercy.

## Vocations bloom in the desert: two priests are ordained in United Arab Emirates

Abu Dhabi: Last week Catholics in Southern Arabia gathered in Abu Dhabi to celebrate the ordination of two Capuchin Franciscan priests by Bishop Paul Hinder, Vicar Apostolic of Southern Arabia.

Fr. Darick Paul D'Souza and Fr. Arun Raj Manuel were ordained at a Mass

in St. Joseph's Cathedral in the capital of the United Arab Emirates Jan. 8, for the Holy Trinity (Karnataka) and St. Francis (Kerala) provinces of the Capuchins, respectively.

## Bharatiya Janata Party wooing Church ahead of polls

Pathanamthitta: The (BJP) has started avidly wooing various church denominations in Kerala ahead of the Assembly polls.

Series of meetings held between the Union Ministers, including the Prime Minister, with church leaders in Kerala amply suggested the BJP's game-plan in bridging the gap between the party and the church.

## Violence against Christians on the rise

New Delhi: On average, Indian Christians reported being subjected to violent attacks for every day of 2015 but the actual number of such incidents would be much higher.

All across India, there were over 365 reported incidents against Christians last year, including seven cases of murder, the Mumbai-based Christian rights group Indian Christian Persecution annual report published on Jan. 18.

## Russian Orthodox priest deported from Chennai

Chennai: A priest of the Russian Orthodox Church was deported from Chennai airport on January 17 as he had arrived with a tourist visa.

Officials of the Foreign Regional Registration Office of the Bureau of Immigration at the airport sent back Father

Seraphym, who works in the department of foreign relationship with Asia in the Russian Orthodox Church.

The priest had an invitation from Russian Ambassador to India Alexander Kadakin. "Still, he was not allowed to enter the country," a Russian Consulate source told reporters. "He had previously visited India on a proper visa, but this time, could not get one because of holidays in the Russian Federation," he added.

## 85 major anti-Christian incidents in 2015, claims NGO

New Delhi: Citing 85 major incidents of alleged persecution of Christians across 20 states last year, a report by a minority and human rights NGO says 2015 saw an unprecedented spike in "intolerance" against the community. The report says on an average India saw one such incident of hate crime against Christians a day last year.

While the report terms Madhya Pradesh as the worst state, followed by Telengana and Uttar Pradesh for such attacks, it calls Maharashtra the 'Hindutva capital'. Delhi too, the report says, is among the top 10 states that saw such incidents, with five Catholic churches vandalised and assaults on priests and community members, The Times of India reported.

The Catholic Secular Forum (CSF) in its report claims that at least seven pastors were killed and 8,000 Christians targeted in 2015.

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# Inspiration!

## Sort Your Complicated



You have a train of thought on which you ride when you are alone and quietly thinking. The self-worth you feel, as well as the happiness your life brings, depends upon the direction in which this train is moving, the baggage it carries and the emotional space through which it travels. Between life's stimulus and your reaction is where this space exists; within it is your power to choose how you react, and in your reaction lies your growth, freedom and happiness. If you truly want to change your life, you must first change your mind. You must free it from the restrictive thinking that holds you back.

**There is no need to complicate your life over silly stuff. Make your life easier with the help of these mind blowing tips.**

**T**here comes a point in everyone's life when they feel as if they are entrapped in a complicated mesh that they themselves have created around them. They cannot find a way to sort it all out. The funny thing is that when it happens to someone else, one has all sort of advice to give but when it comes to one's own self. We are blank! Here are some ways to sort out your complicated life, that is, if your life is complicated

### Take a breath

What happens often is that you are too caught up in the complication and you have no time to pause and think about your life. If you would not take a breather, your vision would forever remain clouded and that essentially translates to a complicated life.

### Let it out

In the tech-savvy era of ours, this step is exactly where no technology can replace the good old pen and paper. Pull out a yellow legal pad or your beloved diary and go ahead and belt out your sob story. Don't hold back, even if things do not make sense and you feel like you are penning down gibberish, do it!

### Try to make sense of it

After you have taken a pause and put it down, chances are you would already start to feel better and see things clearly. Spend time on reading what you wrote and go through it, examine it to identify why is it that you feel your life is complicated. Figure out the culprit.

### Involve your friends

This is what friends are there for. Reach out for your close ones, the ones that do not secretly feel happy that you have messed up. Talk to them, let them know what is bothering you and seek their advice and act on it.

### Positive reinforcement

Positive reinforcement can work wonders. Giving yourself a constant feedback that your life is not messed up will help you believe in the notion. It will eventually help you to sort things out.

### Take a break

If you think that your life is too complicated, you deserve to take a vacation. Take a few close ones along or go all by yourself to a relaxing and soothing place far away, where your problems cannot catch up with you. Often break makes you realise what you are missing and what it is that you need to do. So do not ever hesitate to take a break

### Confrontation

Often life gets complicated because there is a tendency to avoid things that seem complicated. Start confronting things head on, take your time to process them and figure out a plan to work them out. Things that appear complicated aren't always necessarily difficult, so no point in cluttering your life because of them.

# Grooms



# MATRIMONIALS

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean R.C. Bachelor aged 37 yrs, ht. 5' 6", Wt. 75 kg, wheatish complexion, Edn. H.S.C., working in a reputed Hotel seeks alliance R.C. girls from a respected family. Contact email: [owinmiranda@gmail.com](mailto:owinmiranda@gmail.com) / [merline875@gmail.com](mailto:merline875@gmail.com) OR 9867431942 / Bro steven 9987694646.

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., Physics, working as a Editor in Private Company. Contact email : [josephdiniz187@yahoo.com](mailto:josephdiniz187@yahoo.com) OR 9920845539. (Regd. No. 6477)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 29 years, Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.B.A., working as a HR Manager in DUBAI. Contact email : [jassyfernandes1958@gmail.com](mailto:jassyfernandes1958@gmail.com) OR 9503282306 (Regd. No. 6476)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 37 years, Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 80 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. HSC + Dip. in Catering, working on cruise line in store department. Handsome, sober, having own house, seeks a simple, godfearing, working Mangalorean girl. Contact email : [lewisroyston@yahoo.com](mailto:lewisroyston@yahoo.com) OR 7208759704 (Regd. No. 6353)

**MUMBAI** : Anglo Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 34 years, Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Duty Manager. Contact email : [saviohenry@gmail.com](mailto:saviohenry@gmail.com) OR 9820267423 (Regd. No. 6349)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 40 years, Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 73 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Higher Secondary. working as a Fabricator in U.K. Contact email : [savioeferns@gmail.com](mailto:savioeferns@gmail.com) OR 9769054347 (Regd. No. 6321)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 35 years, Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 71 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., Diploma in HRM, working as an Executive Asst., Secretary in MNC. Contact email : [loveforlife2305@gmail.com](mailto:loveforlife2305@gmail.com) OR 9869136747 (Regd. No. 6319)

**MUMBAI** : Goan RC Bachelor 32 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. S.Y.B.A., Computer Engineering, working as a Team Leader. Seeks a Goan or Mangalorean girl. Contact email : [myfrancis@gmail.com](mailto:myfrancis@gmail.com) OR 9969887236 / 9870002508 (Regd. No. 6310)

**MUMBAI** : Tamilian Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 40 years, Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. Elec-

tronics, Self employed, having own house. Contact email: [cyril.khanna@yahoo.com](mailto:cyril.khanna@yahoo.com) OR 9867070056 (Regd No.6322)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 40 years, Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 73 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Higher Secondary. working as a Fabricator in U.K. Contact email : [savioeferns@gmail.com](mailto:savioeferns@gmail.com) OR 9769054347 (Regd No.6321)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 35 years, Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 71 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., Diploma in HRM, working as an Executive Asst., Secretary in MNC. Contact email : [loveforlife2305@gmail.com](mailto:loveforlife2305@gmail.com) OR 9869136747 ((Regd No.6319)

**MUMBAI** : Goan RC Bachelor 32 years, Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. S.Y.B.A., Computer Engineering, working as a Team Leader. Seeks a Goan or Mangalorean girl. Contact email : [myfrancis@gmail.com](mailto:myfrancis@gmail.com) OR 9969887236 / 9870002508 (Regd No.6310)

**MUMBAI** : Goan RC Bachelor 58 years, looks young, 5' 7", slim, wheatish, B.Com., own flats financially very well settled in Mumbai. Seeks educated, presentable lady upto 50 years. No. Bars. Email : [gerryc1956@gmail.com](mailto:gerryc1956@gmail.com) OR 09820636316. (Regd No.6301)

**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](mailto:vanderhidebrian123@gmail.com) OR 8655770778 / 9920207250 (Regd No.6298)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor Edn. 8th std., having own accommodation, working in Catholic school as a Peon, drawing good salary, aged 47 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Seeks a suitable match. Contact Mob.: 9892134950 (Regd No.6294)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divorcee, aged 44 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 66 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. HSC., Service. Contact 9167419437 (Regd No.6292)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 37 years, looks much younger to his aged and slim, Ht. 5'5"

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

Fair Complexion, Edn. HSC., Working as a Financial Consultant. Contact email : [ronalddsouza888@gmail.com](mailto:ronalddsouza888@gmail.com) OR 9004566519 (Regd No.6290)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 30 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Asst. Manager. Contact email : [peterpereira11@gmail.com](mailto:peterpereira11@gmail.com) OR 9833005381 (Regd No.6289)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. HSC., Service. Contact 7666527859 (Regd No.6283)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 27 years, Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 86 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., IT, MCM, working as a Associate Developer. Only Child. Seeks a educated girl. Contact email : [peterlobo.lapetero@gmail.com](mailto:peterlobo.lapetero@gmail.com) OR 9969477179 (Regd No.6278)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 78 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E.I.T., Principal Consultant in South Africa. Contact email: [ronalddsouza.pm@gmail.com](mailto:ronalddsouza.pm@gmail.com) OR 9702970004 / 9820842154 (Regd No.6276)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic, aged 67 years, looks much younger to his age, Pensioner from Australia, intend to settled in Mumbai or Goa. Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 83 kgs, Wheatish complexion, Edn. SSC., seeks a girl from decent family background. Contact : 7506932009. (Regd No.6274)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, aged 31 years, Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Handsome, Edn. B.A., PG-HR, working as a HR-Manager, Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : [frank\\_4\\_f@yahoo.co.in](mailto:frank_4_f@yahoo.co.in) OR 9820470506 (Regd No.6270)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Christian Bachelor, aged 31 years, Ht. 6' 3", Wt. 85 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA., working as HR Professional. Contact email : [valsafonso@gmail.com](mailto:valsafonso@gmail.com) OR 9819295981 / 9867036662 / 9920733493 (Regd No.6267)

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**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 70 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working for a Bank as a Team Leader. Contact email : diana\_lobo10@hotmail.com OR 9870111964 (Regd No.6252)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, Only Child, aged 34 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 57 kgs, Fair and good looking, Edn. B.Com., working for Banking Organisation in Fraud Dept., Contact email : annmdsouza09@gmail.com OR 8983236758 (Regd No.6249)

**MUMBAI** : East Indian Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 29 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 Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 24 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** : Punjabi CNI Protestant Spinster, aged 29 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 54 kgs, Fair complexion, Edn., B.Com., working as a FM Team Co-ordinator. Contact email : minti\_masih@yahoo.co.in OR 9665169956 (Regd No.6244)

**MUMBAI** : Tamilian Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 47 years, Ht. 5', Wt. 42 kgs, fair and beautiful, Edn. SSC., working as a Beautician. Contact email : pmsmarshall1937@gmail.com OR 9167912492 / 9637129065 (Regd No.6243)

**MUMBAI** : Maharashtrian Protestant Spinster, aged 24 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 53 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Diploma in Journalism, working as a Journalist. Contact email : sathapanvel@gmail.com OR 9004684468 (Regd No.6242)

**MUMBAI** : Maharashtrian CNI Protestant Spinster, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Sc.,

B.Ed., Teacher by profession. Contact email : barse.nirmala@gmail.com OR 9930888768 (Regd No.6241)

**MUMBAI** : Tamilian Roman catholic Spinster, aged 30 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** : 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)

**MUMBAI** : Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 25 years, Ht. 5', Fair Complexion, Edn. BMS, pursuing correspondence PGDBA, working for MNC as an Analyst. Looking for bachelors with good family background, well educated and well settled. Please reply with Bio-data and recent photograph. email : indyjonesm@gmail.com OR 9967509233 (Regd No.6234)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. Elex / Telecom. Working as Technical Support Engineer in a Software Company. Contact email : dsouzawalter@rediffmail.com OR 9892627425 (Regd No.6233)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 37 years, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 85 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as an Assistant Manager Training. Contact email : joycepintoplacyda@gmail.com OR 08898078210 (Regd No.6232)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 41 years, Ht. 4' 11", Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Secretary. Contact email : theresaalvares@gmail.com OR 9892173250 (Regd No.6227)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 45 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Supervisor in Bank. Contact email : rodriguesmary898@gmail.com OR 91-9979687644 (Regd No.6226)

**Pune** : Tamilian Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 43 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Com., HRD,

MPN, working for WNS. Contact email : harryanthany.7@gmail.com OR 020-25816332 (Regd No.6225)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 28 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 50 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. Graduate, D.Ed., Teacher by profession. Contact email : kitoo\_angel@rediffmail.com OR 9821389985 (Regd No.6224)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean RC parents invite alliance for their daughter 28 years, 5' 4", B.Tech (Computer Engineer) Working for MNC. Seeks well qualified and well settled bachelor with good family values. Kindly reply with profile and recent photograph to email : dmaryln@ymail.com OR 09916087940 (Regd No.6223)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 27 years, Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 44 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Working as a Sr. Officer in Bank. Contact email : rima.dsouza@hotmail.com OR 9920627802 / 9819602045 (Regd No.6267)

6216. **UDUPI** : Mangalorean RC Parents of spinster daughter 27 years, 5' 4", Height, Wheatish, B.E. in Electronics and Communications. Working as Software Professional in Bangalore, God fearing and family oriented. Seek alliance from Mangalorean RC Bachelors, well educated and settled, age below 32 years. Please send detailed Profile and recent photograph to email : saldanhaej@yahoo.co.in OR 0984 588 8703 and 0820 258 3452 (Regd No.6267)

6212. **MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 48 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E., MBA Marketing, working as a Sr. Manager. Contact email : dnavin@gmail.com OR 9820104238 (Regd No.6217)

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

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 23 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 55 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.M.S., working in Visa Department. Seeks a suitable match. Contact Email : josephinevf@gmail.com OR Mob : 9930466725 (Regd. No. 6447)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean RC Parents from Mumbai seek alliance for their daughter aged 28 year's height 5', Charatered Accountant working in MNC in Mumbai for a reputed company, seeks for a qualified RC bachelor, aged upto 31 year's, with good family background and values. Preferably living in Mumbai or abroad. Contact email stanley\_ds118@yahoo.com (Regd. No. 6475)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 32 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 46 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MMS (Mum. Univ. working as a business executive. Contact email : fedora48@hotmail.com OR 24303096 (Regd. No. 6474)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 33 years, Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 68 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working in Bank as AVP in London. Contact email : rati27@gmail.com OR 9869476537 (Regd. No. 6473)

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

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean/Goan RC parents of spinster daughter 31 yrs, 5' 7", graduate, well built, very fair, good looking with a pleasing & cheerful personality having good family background & moral values. Working abroad for an international airlines administration. (OCI in progress). Arriving Mumbai mid December. Invites alliance from well qualified well settled suitable bach-

elors with good family values and from decent cultured catholic family in India or abroad kindly reply with full details & recent photos to lmna31@hotmail.com (Regd. No. 6438)

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

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

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

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

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 27 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com, C.A. (Inter), working as an Accounts Executive. Contact email : philomina\_88@yahoo.com OR 9867175073 (Regd. No. 6430)

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

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 26 years, Ht. 5'4", Wt. 56 kgs, Fair Complexion, goodlooking and graceful, Edn. as Interior Designer & works as an Interior Designer. Seeks an well educated, working Goan Bachelor. India/Abroad. Having a good status. Contact : +918689890839 and email : mary29paul@gmail.com (Regd. No. 6403)

**PUNE** : Maharashtra RC Spinster, aged 29 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wheatish Complex-

ion, Edn. BHSC, B.Ed., Post graduate, Teacher by profession. Contact email : cyrilmuntode@gmail.com OR 9850978699. (Regd. No. 6374)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 28 years, Ht. 5'3", Wt. 58 kgs, Chocolate Complexion, Edn. B.A., Animation (Dip.). Contact email : profileb9@gmail.com (Regd. No. 6342)

**MUMBAI** : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 25 years, Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working in Family business. Well settled. Seeks a suitable match. Contact email : grehans.gretel@gmail.com OR 9819727898 / 9869251674 (Regd. No. 6339)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 23 years, Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 45 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. Graduate, Management, working as a Travel Consultant. Only Child, good looking. Seeks a well settled bachelor. Contact email : shanice.fernandes@hotmail.com OR 8108468273 (Regd. No. 6338)

**MUMBAI** : Roman Catholic Spinster, 29 years, Ht. 5', Wt. 47 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. F.Y. B.A., working for HR Firm. Contact email : janeqothery@gmail.com OR 9867447645 (Regd. No. 6335)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, 30 years, Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., MBA (Finance) working as an Asst. Manager in Bank. Seeks a suitable match. Contact Email : oldgoa2012@gmail.com OR 9869765169 (Regd. No. 6330)

**MUMBAI** : Tamilian Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 32 years, Ht. 4' 11", Wt. 58 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a CRE, Contact email daisy.dec1@gmail.com OR 7507899111 (Regd. No. 6129)

**MUMBAI** : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, aged 39 years, looks much younger to her age, beautiful, Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., LLB., working as a Legal Head in American Company. Contact email : polysacks@hotmail.com OR 9930813123 (Regd No.6208)

**Mumbai, 03<sup>th</sup> December 2015:** A Customer Awareness Programme was organized by CITIZEN CREDIT Co-operative Bank Ltd at Hotel Rangsharda, Near Lilavati Hospital, K C Marg, Bandra (West), Mumbai 400050. The event was attended by the Bank's valued customers.



The program deliberated on the theme "Investment Management" in order to educate and guide our customers to manage their funds effectively. Addressing the gathering Mrs. Geeta Andrades, the Managing Director and CEO informed customers that the Bank continues to serve its customers with greater efforts and is committed to the prosperity of all its customers. She said, 'The Bank is focused in providing excellent service to its customers and would leave no stone unturned in protecting their interest.' The Bank provides a bouquet of services that the customers can avail so as to ensure

complete satisfaction of their needs.

The honorable Speakers for the event were Mr Manoj Sathe, Vice President-Business Partner (System Support & Investor Education) of NSDL and Mr. Mohandas Muthiah, Vice President – Bancassurance of Max Life Insurance Co Ltd. The Speakers were highly proficient in their respectful fields with over a decade of knowledge and experience and created adequate awareness about the products offered by their Organisation and leveraged our Bank as a facilitator to provide these to our customers. Both the sessions were highly informative and beneficial to the attendees present. Mr. Sathe spoke about new products of NSDL namely E-Zee Will, Demat of Insurance policies and Education loan portal 'Vidyanidhi' provided by NSDL e-governance Infrastructure Ltd.



Customers were provided an opportunity to interact with the speakers through a Question and Answer session. The Customers active interest and participation in the programme was overwhelming. The programme was well appreciated by customers who requested for more such events by the Bank.

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