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'Thought for the week'

Reason is learned from the ever changing world but true knowledge comes from the essence of life.

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THE SECULAR CITIZEN

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In Praise of Mediocrity

By Don Aguiar

I'm a little surprised by how many people tell me they have no hobbies. It may seem a small thing, but — at the risk of sounding grandiose — I see it as a sign of a civilization in decline. The idea of leisure, after all, is a hard-won achievement; it presupposes that we have overcome the exigencies of brute survival. Yet here in India, an ancient country in history, we seem to have forgotten the importance of doing things solely because we enjoy them.

Yes, I know: We are all so very busy. Between work and family and social obligations, where are we supposed to find the time?

But there's a deeper reason, I've come to think, that so many people don't have hobbies: We're afraid of being bad at them. Or rather, we are intimidated by the expectation — itself a hallmark of our intensely public, performative age — that we must actually be skilled at what we do in our free time. Our "hobbies," if that's even the word for them anymore, have become too serious, too demanding, too much an occasion to become anxious about whether you are really the person you claim to be.

If you're a jogger, it is no longer enough to cruise around the block; you're training for the next marathon. If you're a painter, you are no longer passing a pleasant afternoon, just you, your watercolours and your water lilies; you are trying to land a gallery show or at least garner a respectable social media following. When your identity is linked to your hobby — you're a yogi, a jogger, an artist — you'd better be good at it, or else who are you?

Lost here is the gentle pursuit of a modest competence, the doing of something just because you enjoy it, not because you are good at it. Hobbies, let me remind you, are supposed to be something different from work. But alien values like "the pursuit of excellence" have crept into and corrupted what was once the realm of leisure, leaving little room for the true amateur. The population of our country now seems divided between the semipro hobbyists (some as devoted as Olympic athletes) and those who retreat into the passive, screeny leisure that is the signature of our technological moment.

(Contd.. on p. 4)

(Contd.. from p. 3)

I don't deny that you can derive a lot of meaning from pursuing an activity at the highest level. I would never begrudge someone a lifetime devotion to a passion or an inborn talent. There are depths of experience that come with mastery. But there is also a real and pure joy, a sweet, childlike delight that comes from just learning and trying to get better. Looking back, you will find that the best years of, say, swimming or rock climbing were those you spent on the learning curve, when there was exaltation in the mere act of doing.

In a way that we rarely appreciate, the demands of excellence are at war with what we call freedom. For to permit yourself to do only that which you

are good at is to be trapped in a cage whose bars are not steel but self-judgment. Especially when it comes to physical pursuits, but also with many other endeavours, most of us will be truly excellent only at whatever we started doing in our teens. What if you decide in your 40s, as I have, that you want to learn to swim? What if you decide in your 60s that you want to learn to speak Italian? The expectation of excellence can be stultifying.

Liberty and equality are supposed to make possible the pursuit of happiness. It would be unfortunate if we were to protect the means only to neglect the end. A democracy, when it is working correctly, allows men and women to develop into free people; but it falls to us as individuals to use that opportunity to find purpose, joy and contentment

Lest this sound suspiciously like an elaborate plea for people to take more time off from work — well, yes. Though I'd like to put the suggestion more grandly: The promise of our civilization, the point of all our labour and technological progress, is to free us from the struggle for survival and to make room for higher pursuits. But demanding excellence in all that we do can undermine that; it can threaten and even destroy freedom. It steals from us one of life's greatest rewards — the simple pleasure of doing something you merely, but truly, enjoy.

Yah! The pursuit of excellence has infiltrated and corrupted the world of leisure.

' Deepening Indian democracy is a joint effort '

With reference to Eric D'Sa's article titled: Can The Judiciary Alone Take Forward The Mission Of Democracy And Protecting Social Freedoms In The Country ? in The Secular Citizen dated Oct. 29 - Nov. 4, 2018 when ever and where ever a contentious issue arises it must be resolved by holding a referendum on the issue in question not at the time of an election but separately.

Human rights groups and social rights groups must protect the rights of citizens when ever and where ever their rights are threatened and cultural revolution must be initiated to make people aware of their rights and how to protect them.

The judiciary must initiate fast track courts to deliver quick and good judgements on issues concerning human and social rights and the police force must be modernised in all aspects to help make it people friendly and honest and secular to protect the people.

But apart from this eternal vigilance is the price one must pay to safe human rights and social frights.

Thus deepening Indian democracy is a joint effort.

—Peter Castellino

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—Jacob Crasto, Vasai

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Shabarimala

Allow me to send this message to our Hon. Central Minister Smriti Irani through your columns:

Smriti Iraniji,

How do women desecrate temples just by being in the age between 10 to 50? Is age their sin? Are you taking us to Manusmriti times? Yes, 'human' beings allow their women friends to enter into their homes 'with napkin soaked in menstrual blood' during that period. It is a natural state, not sinful. And which place is not 'God's house', Madam? He is 'sarvavyaapi'. God is even in the toilet where we wash all dirt, which is rightly called 'Swacchhataa Gruha!' Christians have discarded such teaching given in the Old Testament (Cfr. Leviticus 15)

You being a public figure and yourself a woman should not have expressed such outdated and unscientific views on women. 'Sarve sukhino bhawantu!

—Fr Michael G.,
Vasai.

Catholics at Hindu pujas

This is with reference to the letter 'Mixed signals for Garba' by Prof. Robert Castellino (Secular Citizen, Oct 29). In the first place, it is very unusual for a Catholic priest in his cassock to dance at a Navratri 'garba' festival. This is why several eyebrows were raised and many felt scandalised when the video of the dancing priest went viral on Whatsapp. I wonder why no one bothered to video some of our priests doing the jive in their soutane with their female partners at birthday bashes, to shock the conscience

of the very same people. I have witnessed quite a few of such exhibition dances. Secondly, there is nothing wrong in attending Hindu pujas. It is one way of expressing our solidarity with them. Quite a few of our priests and bishops are 'guests of honour' at these pujas and given the privilege of lighting the traditional ceremonial lamp and breaking of coconuts. What is objectionable and sinful, is the offering of aarti and worshipping the deity, since it violates God's first commandment and the church's teachings. This is a grievous sin of idolatry, often done in the name of inculturation and to please our Hindu friends. It is even more serious when it involves a Catholic priest. In (1Cor 10), St Paul sounds a strict warning to the Corinthians against the worship of idols, as well as the eating of food offered to the idols, because, what is sacrificed on pagan altars is offered to demons and not to God" (1Cor.10: 20).

—A. F. Nazareth,
Alto Porvorim, Goa.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Recently I came across the Guidelines from The Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI) with regard to distribution of 'Holy Communion' by Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC). According to the guidelines, Holy Communion should always be distributed with the utmost dignity and reverence. The minister should avoid all haste in distributing Holy Communion. When distributing the Sacred Hosts, the minister **holds up** the consecrated Host as each communicant approaches and, addressing the communicant, says, "The Body of Christ." When the

communicant responds "Amen," the minister places the Host on the communicant's tongue or in the communicant's hand. I suppose this should be the ideal way *and should be followed by All those who distribute Holy Communion.*

What we are seeing today however, does not seem to be in accordance with the guidelines. **One can barely hear the minister murmur the words, "The Body of Christ". And, whether or not, the communicant responds/murmurs with an "Amen", the sacred host is just handed over to the communicant. Without holding up the Host, it is dispensed with - from the vessel to the communicant, all in one action.** This is the scenario in general, although there are a few who do comply with the guidelines. **So, is that the Body of Christ that is being distributed, or is it just some 'prasada' - 'Christa PRASAD', as it was referred to some time back?**

As regards accidents during distribution of Holy Communion, the guidelines say that, if a host falls to the ground during distribution of Holy Communion, the minister should pick it up immediately and set it aside. The minister should also reverently pick up any particles that drop from the Host. **Have we not seen the host falling down at some time or the other, and the Altar server/minister picking it up and putting it back into the vessel?**

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

Re-writing science

While we are witnessing Indian history being re-written to give it a more 'desi' flavour, the next in turn appears to be that onow. Thanks to all our freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives fighting for India's Independence.

— Jubel D'Cruz, Mumbai

'Becoming A Mission', One To Another

Musings on the Message of Pope Francis for World Mission Day 2018

The Message of Pope Francis for 'World Mission Day 2018' is addressed to the youth, in a major way. It is characteristically titled 'Together with young people, let us bring the Gospel to all'. He speaks to the young people in a direct language and along with them and through them speaks to the entire Catholic Christian community. His message spills over Catholic and Christian boundaries and addresses the entire human society, too. Certainly, the focus of the message is young people, but the spirit of the message is 'youthfulness' in faith and mission and the application of the message is Catholic, Christian and all human communities across the world, in a progressive manner.

His message, obviously, has two core purposes -- one, 'motivating young people towards a mission in life' and two, 'making the entire Christian community youthful through young people'. The 'bonus effect' of the twin-purpose is that 'Christian faith remains ever young'. Quoting *Redemptoris Missio*, 2, he affirms 'mission revitalizes faith'. Faith is the spirit of mission and mission is the body of faith. Faith and mission are like experience and expression. In other words, mission is motivated by faith. 'Good news' is the heart of faith and 'bringing it to one and all' is mission. Both faith and mission call for being youthful and the engagement with them keeps not only the one who engages ever 'youthful' but also the 'good news' and all those who share in it.

More often than not, mission is understood to be a certain task performed, of course within life, but other than life proper. Pope Francis has a brilliant definition of mission. He states 'life is a mission'. In other words, rather than

'I have a mission in life', it is 'I am a mission on this earth', so profound an insight! Quoting *Evangelii Gaudium*, 273, he asserts 'that is the reason why I am here in this world'. In yet other words, 'every man and woman is a mission'. One has to incarnate oneself in life as a mission. The source and direction of this mission is not just 'being sent by someone and to someone' respectively, but also 'being attracted to and by someone', considering the way in which one is a mission. For the purpose of meaningfully applying one's being a mission to someone or to a certain situation, it would be pertinent to ask oneself 'what would Christ do if he were in my place' right now. The answer is sure to facilitate the missioner immensely in 'becoming a mission' not only to one and all, but also to 'those who are far from faith, indifferent to it, hostile to it and even opposed to it'.



by Fr Dr M. D. Thomas

'*Missio Ad Gentes*' is 'mission to the nations or people'. This is the mission God the Father carried out in the act of creation. This is the mission Jesus Christ was endowed with in the mystery of incarnation as the Son of God. This is the mission Jesus Christ performed during his life on earth as the Messiah. This is the mission the Christian community is mandated to continue in life. Definitely, this is the mission every disciple of Jesus or every Christian is supposed to shoulder in his or her life. In sum, 'mission to the people' is grounded in and emerges from the person of Jesus Christ. In addition, this is the same mission the Second World Catholic Council of Vatican revised and rejuvenated in the 60s of the 20th century, by incorporating an 'interactive, reciprocal and complementary dynamics' to the style of living one's Christian mission, in a historic way so.

'Mission to the people' is the mission of 'sharing the good news' that is Jesus Christ. It is not just announcing the good news. It would mean 'becoming good news' and 'living it' oneself and then 'sharing it' with others, to be more precise, 'loving everyone, even enemies' as Jesus did (Jn 13.30), Mt 5.42). In other words, 'becoming good news' signifies 'becoming like Jesus'. Since the 'peoples, nations or others' are ideas or ideals and are abstract, ambiguous and anonymous, the 'sharing of good news' runs the risk of being casual and ineffective. In the concrete sense, 'good news' can be shared only one-to-one or 'person-to-person', especially when it is the question of 'being or becoming' good news, that too, by way of 'loving and serving' others. 'Mission to the peoples', at heart, is a 'mission to the other person', who is just an extension of one's own being. Further, 'mission to the other person' would imply 'instilling a sense of faith' and a 'sense of mission in life' in the other. It would signify creating or enhancing in the other person 'an interest, an enthusiasm, a commitment in life', which will pave his or her way for pursuing the 'fullness of life' and attaining a 'sense of fulfillment' in life.

'Mission to the other', as a one-sided initiative, has to be advanced and enhanced to the point of being responded by 'mission between or among peoples', which is technically worded as '*Missio Inter Gentes*', which is the genius of the Second Council of Vatican. Being a mission to the other person has to be responded by the other person, by 'accepting the initiative' and by a fresh 'mission from the other person' in return. 'Inter-personal way of becoming a mission' is a mutually enriching and complementary way of performing the Christian mission, yes, a mission par excellence. The 'reciprocal and progressive process of becoming a mission to one

(Contd.. on p. 9)



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WHETHER WE THE READERS ARE BECOMING THE NEW ILLITERATE OF OUR TIMES BY LABELLING EACH PIECE OF WRITING WITHOUT READING AS “LEFTIST” OR “RIGHTIST”?

by Eric D'Sa

A few days ago I was talking to a long time good friend of mine, who like myself writes articles. He said unfortunately these days, instead of reading and understanding a piece of writing, it is labelled as 'leftist' or 'rightist'. The other common label is a 'nationalist' or 'liberal'. Depending on our own leanings, we read only the articles which reflect our mind sets. Today, we are unfortunately under the dangerous influence of a new form of illiteracy. According to the Census, "a person aged seven and above, who can both read and write with understanding in any language, is treated as literate." We are now seeing a form of illiteracy creeping on those who are literate and this has to do with the term "understanding" in the above definition. Under the influence of digital technologies and a dominant visual culture, are we these days reading (and seeing) with less understanding?

This new form of illiteracy has to do with certain incapacities of reading and writing. Reading is matter of fact and habitual; yet it has many hidden dimensions to it. Reading is more

than seeing words. It is about making sense of words, about discovering and constructing meaning. The meaning of the words we read are not gathered from dictionaries alone. They are also created from our memories and experiences. The meaning of every sentence is dependent on the context in which it is used. If reading is so complex, how is it that we read so effortlessly? The strategies of reading have to be taught and they become part of our habits of reading. For example, we often take for granted the relation between reading and writing,

YOU THE CITIZENS DECIDE:

or writing a sentence from left to right (say, in English).

Even this simple practice of writing has deep cognitive consequences. When we read from left to right, our experiences of reading are different than when we read from right to left. We also tend to read, like this article, from top to bottom. These practices of writing deeply influence how we make meaning of what we read. Experiments have shown that our notion of time as moving from left to right has a strong correlation with the way we write. People who write from right to left (as in Urdu or Hebrew) tend to understand time as moving from right to left. Reading practices have always been culturally influenced. Every age has had different strategies of reading. Even the pleasure of reading silently, which is so endemic today, was not always the social norm, since reading aloud was a common practice in various medieval societies. It is said that ancient libraries had people reading out loud and shouting

across tables, which is quite unlike our idea of a library today.

What really is the dominant practice of reading today? What are the skills of reading that are part of public practices? A troubling practice that has crept into our contemporary reading practices is the act of labelling instead of 'reading'. When we read we discover and/or create meaning of what we read. One easy way of discovering meaning is not to struggle through reading but through the act of labelling. Labelling is a way of saying that the article is about something without even reading it. It is remarkable how so much of our reading gets judged by the act of labelling. To show that you have read an article, all you have to do is say that this article is 'leftist' or 'rightist' and it is as if all meaning then becomes transparent.

Labelling is the new illiteracy of our times. Labelling is an obstacle to really understanding what is being said and how it is being said. It is also a lazy and unethical way of reading. The motivation for labelling is not to learn and understand but to attack without justification. It is a symptom of how a literate people can become dangerously illiterate when labelling replaces understanding. It is the spread of labelling as a form of social reading that has also contributed to the spread of hate in our society. If you do not want to hear what a woman has to say, all you have to do is to label her as a 'feminist'. Similarly, if you do not want to be persuaded by the reasonable arguments of those who are concerned about so many things going wrong around us, all you have to do is to label them 'anti-national'. This habit of labelling has become so deep and endemic that we will not read a book or an article if the author is labelled

(Contd.. on p. 9)



(Contd.. from p. 8)

in a particular way. Everything in our society today has been reduced to labels: Left, Right, man, woman, Brahmin, Dalit, Hindu, Muslim, and so on. Labelling is our new social disease of illiteracy.

We are often told that artists, activists and some academics misuse the freedom of expression to say what they want. But what about the reader or the spectator? They are also using a 'freedom of interpretation' to interpret what they want in the text or the play. What is the responsibility of hearing, reading and seeing? It is ironic that the hooligans as well as the representatives of this government want complete freedom of interpretation, but do not want to allow freedom of expression. These acts are unethical because the task of a democratic society is not only to protect freedom of expression, but to also protect and enable the freedom of interpretation. Like all freedoms, this freedom has to be used ethically. This is exactly what intolerant people as well as the government are not capable of understanding.

In the case of the play or movie that is controversial, the few people who are labelling it without reading or watching it are misusing the hard-won freedom of interpretation for their personal ends. Similarly, the government is behaving in an intolerant manner by passing a rule that the faculty cannot write any critical articles about the government, its actions, its policies. How should the government then read these critical pieces? They can be read as being against the government or, equally, they can be interpreted as helping the larger society by pointing out the perceived mistakes in policies or governance. The problem is not the articles that are critical about the government; rather, it is about the way those articles are being read by those in the government. It is time for we the citizens to guard against this trend of illiteracy of understanding that is slowly creeping into our society.

(Contd.. from p. 6)

another' is the dynamics of mission, in the advanced and complete sense of the word. 'Mission between or among peoples' includes the mission between individuals, families, institutions, communities, nations and groups of all affiliations of faiths, ideologies and cultures in the world, as the dynamics of 'sharing', well, the supreme paradigm of a divinely inspired human life.

'Becoming a mission, one to another' further implies being a mission to those who live in the 'peripheries' of life. Rightly highlighted by Pope Francis, the way of serving 'the least' of our brothers and sisters, as emphasized in culmination by Jesus in Mt 25.40, is the essence of the Christian mission. 'Solidarity' with the sad plight of those in the peripheries, in all the dimensions, has to precede becoming 'good news' to them, after the heart of the good shepherd (Jn 10.11 and Lk 15.3-7). In fact, 'discriminating our brothers and sisters is the sign of being rejected by God' and mission doesn't approve it, in any

way. Therefore, 'sharing in' coupled with 'sharing with' is the logic of faith and mission, as a double and multi-sided process of life, with 'the least' in special. 'Dissolving borders, eliminating distances and reducing differences' are the progressive steps that make 'becoming a mission, one to another' realistic and effective, to the core. A cooperative and reciprocal journey of 'becoming the good news of love and service' requires being volunteered, anew. Such a mission is sure to enhance human dignity and divine credit, at the same time, and leave the faith and mission lived and launched by Jesus Christ ever youthful, as well.

The author is scholar of religion, religions and harmony among religions. He has been a proponent of 'mission among peoples' for the last 30 years through interfaith relations. He engages profusely with education, interactive dynamics of mission, cross-cultural perspectives and social issues, by way of lectures, articles and social interactions, at diverse levels. He is Founder Director of Institute of Harmony and Peace Studies, New Delhi. He can be viewed and heard at 'www.mdthomas.in' and 'www.ihpsindia.org' and can be contacted at 'mdthomas53@gmail.com' and 9810535378.

' Ensure communal harmony '

With reference to Prof. Robert Castellino's letter titled: Mixed signals for 'Garba ' in The Secular Citizen dated October 29 - November 4, 2018 priests must be warned that they must not participate in the religious aspect of another religion's festival.

Besides celebrating religious festivals of different religions to ensure communal harmony a very deep comparative study of different religions and their festivals and customs must be carried out and the similarities and differences must be noted .

Festivals of any religion are an expression of joy and happiness but they lose their meaning and value when they are commercialised.

Thus it is best to celebrate festivals as family festivals to enhance their value and by holding inter religious programmes and meetings.

Communal harmony results in peace and tranquillity while communal hate causes hurt- thus one must ensure communal harmony at all costs.

—Peter Castellino

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Make your kids responsible with real life skills

As parents, one of your main responsibilities is to make sure that your kids are prepared for the real world, and that they are going to be responsible adults. In today's world, this can be more challenging than ever, but it certainly isn't impossible.

In fact, there are many life skills you can teach your kids to help them become responsible members of society, not to mention being happy and productive adults.

Many kids today live a life of entitlement. Very little is asked of them in terms of responsibilities at home. As responsible individuals and citizens, being responsible parents is also one of our foremost duties. Each has part in helping your children become responsible and keeping the same in mind we have outlined some important tips that will help teach your kids how to be responsible and productive adults.

Being responsible is a key to children's success both in school and in the larger world when they grow up. In order to prepare teens for adulthood, you, as a parent, need to teach them important life skills that will help them to become productive adults. In today's world, this can be more challenging than ever, but it certainly isn't impossible. If you work together, you can do it. Keep an open communication with them and through those problems together. Also follow these easy guidelines for a better future of your kids.

Help Them Control Emotions:

We all have our moments when it is difficult to deal with our emotions. It could be a conflict at work, relationship issues, or other situations that require tact. But, over time, we learn how to keep things in check for the most part. This is something that many teens have trouble with, since they are dealing with school work, teachers, peer pressure, and their home lives, but you can help.

Teach them how to deal with their emotions in a healthy manner, such as through sports, music, or arts and crafts. This also helps in encouraging patience.

Equip them with Skills for Emergencies

Once your kids are on their own, they are going to need coping skills to help them deal with emergencies. It could be as simple as a fire in a frying pan, an automotive breakdown, or even a leaky pipe in the kitchen.

You need to take the time to teach them about any number of little emergencies that can happen, and how to deal with them appropriately. They also need to learn how to cope without their mobile devices. [1] These things may not always be available when they need them.

Let Them To Stand Up For Themselves:

Obviously, you are not teaching your kids to be fighters. But, you should be helping them learn how to negotiate in a conflict. Getting angry and throwing temper tantrums isn't going to help them in any way.

Teach them the skills they need to stay calm in any situation, such as counting to 10 before losing their temper, learning how to walk away from a conflict, and helping them recognize their emotions and be able to deal with those emotions during conflicts.

Encourage Them to Trust Themselves:

Schools teach kids how to follow rules, but not about real life skills. You need to teach them that while they need to take instructions, they also need to be independent thinkers.

Help your teens learn how to trust in themselves and their decisions. Sure, there will be a few bad decisions made, but they will learn from their mistakes, and learn how to make better decisions.

Show Them How To Pay it Forward:

Not only do we need to take care of

ourselves, we need to have compassion for the world around us.

There are several ways that you can teach your teen how to contribute to this world. [3] Get them to volunteer at a local animal shelter or food bank.

You never know. They may love these things so much that it could lead to a career in helping others.

Give Them Problems To Solve:

Your job isn't to make life easy for your teen. Your job is to teach them how to get along in the real world as an adult. So, don't solve their problems for them.

Give them situations where they will have to think for themselves, and see what they are able to do. They may surprise you, and themselves, given the opportunity to solve their own problems.

Teach them a lesson of "You Did It, You Fix It":

A lot of parents make the mistake of trying to fix all of their kids' problems. While this may be okay when they are very young, they must learn to deal with their own problems, especially the problems that they create themselves.

If your kids are in situations that they can handle, such as an argument with a friend or a conflict with a teacher, don't help them. Let them handle it on their own, instead, teach them problem-solving skills and become their "guide" so they learn from the experience.

Wah, Franco Wah!

The kind of rousing welcome accorded to the rape accused [bishop] Franco Mulakkal, on his return to Jalandhar, must rank among the most embarrassing events for the Catholic Church in India. Actually, Franco should have been taken around the city in an open flower bedecked jeep like the 1983 World Cup Heros for his 'achievements'. Mind you, he was given conditional bail, not acquitted to warrant such a show of solidarity. He still carries the 'rape accused' tag. His passport stands impounded with a ban on entry into the State of Kerala – very stringent conditions. Not every accused is made to surrender his passport. The Church should have immediately said it does not favour glorification of any accused priest or a bishop till he is cleared by the court. You cannot say his followers did it. That would be akin to the statement from the Sabarimala temple authorities who say they were not responsible for the violence but the devotees of Lord Ayyappa. Or the BJP saying we did not lynch anyone, the fringe did it.

What did the accused [bishop] want to prove – his popularity, his money power? When you do things like this, you are actually showing your nervousness and hoping that it will show the complainants in poor light. These victims do not have the resources to stage such expensive shows. Franco has. Who offered the victim's family money? The victims are lying low hoping for justice. With no support of any sort from the Church, they are like orphans. People in Mumbai and elsewhere are asking questions. Remember, M.J.Akhbar, MOS in the Modi government did likewise and raised an army of some 97 lawyers to support him in his case in the court. The public was aghast at his belligerence and arrogance. If anything, it showed that he had a weak case and needed so many lawyers to defend him.

The Church in India looked powerless. If a bishop is in charge of something in India, why on earth should he be reporting to the Vatican? Did he tell the authorities "You will have no power over me unless it came from above [Vatican]". We have similar situations existing in Mumbai where certain priests belonging to different Orders are under the direct control of the authority outside the diocese or State but functionally report to the local Bishop. This duality creates piquant

IEWS on NEWS

situations. We have had some unpleasant situations in a suburban Mumbai parish. This duality must be addressed urgently to avoid embarrassing situations. This is somewhat like what we hear in politics – helpless on account of coalition dharma where the CM or PM has no control over his ministers from other political parties.

The Church needs to be more sensitive, open and transparent in line with its teachings to the faithful. When it was realized that St Philomena never ever existed, the Church without any hesitation admitted its mistake despite the fear of infallibility of the Pope being questioned. That actually raised the stock of the Church. In the present case, there was hesitation in commenting on the alleged transgressions by Franco. Sadly, the Church has also not shown requisite empathy towards the victims [nuns] who are also God's chosen ones. No strong statement from the Church on the sudden and mysterious death of Fr Kuriakose – lone voice and witness for the victims. He had to face threats by paid goons may be. Others were too scared to speak. Sr Anupama who attended the funeral of Fr Kuriakose was heckled, insulted and shooed away. This was a grave insult to the deceased priest who like Sr Anupama stood for the victims. No condemnation from the Church but the Catholic community is solidly behind the victims who have been abandoned by the Church. Even the Convent failed them under pressure, one presumes. They need moral and financial support. Someone should start a crowd-funding campaign for the beleaguered nuns to hire a couple of good lawyers – not 97.

Hurricane - #MeToo

Without any doubt, this new wave of MeToo disclosures has emboldened more and more female victims of lustful predators who are now facing the new found 'Nari-shakti' to confront those who tried to exploit them. The victims have named some of the 'Who is Who' in Bollywood, politicians, editors, writers, singers et al. No matter what the outcome of this campaign, the careers and reputations of some of the big-wigs like, Alok Nath, Sajid Khan, Chetan Bhagat, Nata Patkar, Suhail Seth, M.J.Akhbar, Anu Malik among others have nosedived never to be revived



by Marshall Sequeira

again. These biggies in their respective fields considered themselves too powerful and 'respectable' to be easily exposed. With connections at the right places, they thought they were invincible. The general reluctance of the girls, to come out openly about being sexually exploited, encouraged them. Men like Suhail Seth in designer suits appeared on television as righteous men calling others hooligans, uncouth etc. Such holier-than-thou moralists may not be able to face TV anchors anymore. They have fallen from grace.

Like all accused, some accused have threatened serious consequences including court cases with almost 100 lawyers to defend one single politician. What does the politician want to convey? This is show of strength and even money power to browbeat the complainants but some of the victims being powerful themselves, will face all odds to see that the accused are punished. They are already shamed though yet to be held guilty of all the wrongs they are accused of. Some have simply chosen to apologize and seek closure. With a powerful judiciary, justice will be done, be it to the accusers or the accused. There must be thousands of other cases of exploitation of the poor and middle class who have no voice. The powerful ones have taken undue advantage of their situation. They suffer in silence.

Even if these victims from the lower strata [aam janata] come forward with their woes, will the media entertain their cases with the same amount of prime time and print space on page one? No! They will not do that because such stories do not create ripples in social and political circles. These victims will continue to suffer such ignominy, no matter how many panels you set up or laws you enact. You have to be someone not anyone to be heard. That much for equality! By the way, Big B, a lot of people who chose to speak in favour of the victims, incidentally, are neither Patekars nor Tanushrees.



Do not stand at my Grave and Weep

On one of our visits to a 'Home for the Aged' the members of our lay church organization encountered an inmate of the home, relatively a newcomer. She was a widow in her early Sixties, mother of three married sons. Unable to come to terms with her new way of life in a 'Home', she missed her own home and the proximity of her close family. The faraway look and the unshed tears in her eyes spoke of a profound grief that can only be caused by total rejection!

There are others, our dear ones languishing in loneliness, living their deaths much before they are physically dead! Families may have genuine reasons to distance themselves from the older generation in order to provide them comfort and timely care. A family of four well-placed sons and daughters migrated abroad in search of a better life for their own children, had shifted their mother to an expensive 'Home for the Aged'. A perfunctory telephone call at Christmas time was all that they owed her in return for sacrificing her life at the family altar. Though able-bodied, sharp-witted and spirited, the uprooted mother withered away into nothingness, giving up the struggle much before her time. One fine day, she bid farewell to the world leaving her tears and misery behind. The fu-

neral was a grand affair, with her bereaved sons, daughters and their families lining up to receive condolences. Eyes watered, hands trembled and their voices were choked with grief!

Once a year, Mother Church reminds us to pray for our dear ones, dead and gone to their eternal reward in heaven. On this day, the graveyards see a lot of activity, with mourning families that surround the grave where the mortal remains of a family member were once buried. Lamps are lit, flowers are scattered and graves are cleaned and decorated beautifully.



by Vera Alvares

These neatly laid marble slabs are just physical symbols of someone who was present in our life for a time, like a passing ship in the night! To reflect on this we need to dwell on one bitter truth - how did I repay that person for contributing to the richness of my life, while he/she was alive?

Praying for the soul of the dear one is the only way open to us to remain close in a new relationship with the one we lost. Let the prayers flow, not once a year but as we go past each milestone of life where that person had been with us. Reliving the fond memories we created together will transform into words of supplication for the repose of souls.

The practice of praying for the dead originates in the Christian belief in the Resurrection of Christ and the everlasting life promised to us in the teachings of Jesus. The Holy Scriptures too reinforce this view. In the second book of Maccabees, "..... Judas Maccabee, the Jewish leader, led his troops into a battle in 163 B.C. When the battle ended **Judas and his men came to take away for burial the bodies of their brethren who had fallen in this battle.**

As the soldiers prepared their slain comrades for burial, they discovered that each was wearing an amulet of Jumnia taken as booty from a pagan Temple. This violated the law of Deuteronomy and so Judas and his soldiers prayed that God would forgive the sin these men had committed. **And making a gathering, Judas sent twelve thousand drachms of silver to Jerusalem for sacrifice to be offered for the sins of the dead." 2 Maccabees 12.**

This is the first indication in the Bible of a belief that Eucharist and prayers offered by the living can help free the dead from any sin that would separate them from God in the life to come. This belief is also echoed in the New Testament (2 Timothy 1) During the early Christian era, the practice of praying for the dead was done secretly and collectively in the Catacombs, the subterranean passageways that were used as burial niches Prayers for the dead are mentioned in the Christian literature of the Fourth Century as though they had already been a Christian longstanding custom.

A popular poem by Mary Elizabeth Frye defines the stark reality of death thus-

*"Do not stand at my grave and weep
I am not there. I do not sleep
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there. I did not die."*

Believing that our beloved departed ones need our prayers more than our tears, as Christians who hold the Christian Literature sacred, let us practice praying for the dead not on one day in a year, but daily!

Guide to different cooking oils

NOT ALL OILS are created equal! Before your next trip to the kitchen check out this guide to some of the healthiest cooking oils



One of the most important things to keep in mind is that oil behaves differently when heated, it changes texture, colour and taste as well as its nutritional properties. When the oil reaches its smoking point, a lot of the nutrients are destroyed and it can sometimes potentially form harmful compounds. Also different oils have varying amounts of fats polyunsaturated, monounsaturated and saturated fats. Here's a look at various oils and why they are not created equal.

Mustard oil :

It has a near ideal fat composition but not very good as it contains high amounts of erucic acid ranging from 35 to 48 percent. It is recommended that you don't use mustard oil as the sole cooking medium. It has a high smoking point so it's very good for deep frying.

Coconut oil :

This oil is full of saturated fat. Studies suggest that diets high in coconut oil do raise total blood cholesterol. Coconut oil also seems to raise good cholesterol and it has the advantage that it behaves very well at high temperatures.

Sunflower oil :

The oil extracted from the seeds of sunflowers is known as sunflower oil. It has a high quantity of vitamin E which makes it excellent for being used in and cosmetic products. People with diabetes may need to be careful about sunflower oil as it may

lead to the possibility of increasing sugar levels.

Olive oil :

If you use Olive oil regularly, you are consuming monounsaturated fats that will help you lower your risk of heart disease and breast cancer and that's possibly because of its high monounsaturated fat content which lowers cholesterol.

Extra virgin olive oil :

This oil is derived from the first pressing of olives and it full of antioxidants as well as polyphenols that are both considered good for heart health. It's a darker colour and has less acidity than olive oil.

Rice bran oil :

A fairly new kid on the block and a fast rising favourite amongst the manufacturers, rice bran oil is made from the outer layer (bran) of the grain of rice. Health experts claim that it's the healthiest oil on planet. Apparently, rice bran oil has a chemical called oryzanol which is good for your cholesterol. It is high in monounsaturated fats and has a fair amount of polyunsaturated fats too both it has a high smoking point it works well for deep frying chips and all kind of fast foods.

Palm oil :

Palm oil is a saturated fat made from the oil palm tree. It's semi-solid at room temperature and has made re-

cent appearances as a substitute for trans fats in commercial baking. However, it is a very efficient frying oil with a smoke point of just under 450 degrees. No one would be mad, for instance, if you made these spaghetti squash fritters fried in palm oil.

VEGETABLE OIL

The term 'vegetable oil' can be narrowly defined for referring only to plant oils that are liquid at room temperature or broadly defined without regard to a substance's state of matter at a given temperature. For this reason vegetable oils that are solid at room temperature are sometimes called vegetable fats. In contrast to these triglycerides are vegetable waxes that lack glycerine in their structure. Although many plant parts may yield oil in commercial practice oil is extracted primarily from seeds.

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Konkani Natak Sabha (KNS) M'luru @ 75 years



by Ivan Saldanha-Shet.M'luru.

Konkani Natak Sabha - KNS (1943-2018) for 75 years, has been an integral dynamic cultural and entertaining Konkani beacon of progress and support for people. Since last few weeks the KNS has organised many events to mark the great Jubilee. "Natak Dwarin Dharmik Sadan" is the revered call of 'Konkani Natak Sabah' (KNS) that has reverberated far and wide. Rev George A F Pai (Albuquerque) SJ, a Jesuit, a lover of language and culture was a pioneer. Capuchin Friars of St. Ann's Friary were from earliest times leaders who directed this unique 'Konkani Sabha'....to mention just a few of many names of Presidents: Fr.Cyril, Fr.Philip Neri, Fr. Eugene, Fr. Cornelius, Fr.Vincent, Fr.Vitus Prabhudas.... all Capuchins. KNS was formally established Sept 19, 1943...it launched Konkani from a rusted dialect to an evolving live language. It is noteworthy that the land mark pioneer venue that is 'Don Bosco Hall' still visible today in it's original form, was opened on Aug 19, 1951. It may not stand for long due to age and demand. Development to take it's course must bid good bye, In more recent times with Konkani recognised and included in the official list of languages in the '8th schedule of the constitution', government too contributed to the development of language.

Konkani Natak Sabha-KNS: Konkani dramas in 1930s by St.Aloysius students, empowered by Fr. George A F Pai SJ and others, motivated a group of students to stage Konkani plays for the good of India and this was the root of this Sabha. The Capu-

chin congregation gave leadership, Fr.Philip Neri was the most active person to spear head the effort and he was in the forefront for near 30 years, remembered moving about on his bicycle all around the town. September 19, 1943 is the official birthday of KNS. KNS was registered in 1946 when it had 12 units and near 200 members. A few of the leading figures of KNS that immediately come to memory are .. VPs - M.P.D'Sa, P F Rodrigues, S.S.Rasquinha, J B Rasquinha, Benedict Miranda, Secretaries: SS Prabhu, V Pinto, Louis Netto, Austin D'Souza Prabhu, Lawrence Rodrigues....Treasurers :Jerome D'Silva, John D'Souza, Stany Menezes, all these and more are famous for their contributions and services.

Platinum Jubilee (75th) year - 2018

: Formally inaugurated on March 15, heralding the great land mark Jubilee year 2018, Konkani people, very sentimental, emotional and loyal take up the challenge to renew the cultural goodness. Office bearers, members, admirers and well wishers (past and present) gathered to reminisce on the hoary past of it's 75 years. The gathering was virtually a who's-who of the local Konkani glitterati. The meaningful logo of the jubilee year was unveiled by Rev Alwin Serrao (Priest of the Diocese and Principal Padua College-Nanthur), the chief guest. He is a modern promoter of new concepts in Dramatics today. Senior actor Mable Kent, KNS President Rev Paul Melwyn D'Souza OfM Cap, Dolphy Saldanha, senior mem-



ber of KNS, VP Sunil Menezes, Floyd D'Mello and others graced the platform and spoke in moving terms.

Rev Alwin Serrao dwelt on " Drama, is defined as 'a copy of real daily life', show cased on the stage," it served to entertain and educate

people, in times when no other media existed - with culture, literature, music, knowledge and all desired aspects built in. Now even though modern media has created non stop 24X7, entertainment, drama, to an extent still holds people spell bound even today, and will continue to. The dilemma of the dramatist today was whether to provide a fare to satiate the appetite of the audience or should it serve to convey the mind and thinking of the author/dramatist? The speaker pointed out that Konkani drama in Mangaluru is perhaps about 130 years old, it all may have started with religious teachings being depicted as an entertainment, mostly held at night in the open air, Tuluvas and Saraswats contributed to the first dramas here. Konkani Catholics adapted from Marathi and European plays and introduced Biblical episodes. Rev Serrao, also traced the many plays and dramas, enacted by KNS and the well remembered dramatists, writers, musicians, artistes and so on that have moved through this historic venue in a touching emotional journey. In deed all the speakers took the enraptured audience through an enlightening memory

(Contd.. on p. 18)

Rejuvenate Eucharistic Adoration In Youth



BY MELVYN BROWN

to heal the wounds of suffering humanity among people of all nations. It was also her desire to empower the young by her examples of prayer, labor and trust in Jesus.

St. Mother Teresa would begin her day only after she spent time before the Blessed Sacrament. Her simple life and humble Eucharistic adoration had inspired many who came in contact with the Calcutta saint from across the world.

The liturgy is sacred precisely because it is the prayer of the Church. On the cross Jesus gave us the perfect and absolute sacrifice perpetuated in Holy Mass. From this we too, can do the same in our labors daily and offer it to God. It would be an Eucharistic lifestyle. Add to this brief visits to the Blessed Sacrament it helps maintain our devotion to the Eucharist.

I came across a message in the Pastoral letter for Corpus Christi 18th June 2017. "...to rejuvenate the Eucharistic Adoration in our homes, schools, parishes as the source of strength for our lives and for our mission..."

Youth must always remember that when they visit the tabernacle Jesus awaits them.

For Catholic youth to proclaim Jesus is an active obligation and He is always with us in the Eucharist; the power of the Lord's presence is the need for our present times, to evangelize.

In the panorama of salvation's mystery, the single and significant theology of the Eucharist proves the dogmatic truth of Christ's presence in the Consecrated Host, exposed on the altar. Children are encouraged to love and respect the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance when they learn to believe in His presence.

Youth are misled when evil dares to create doubts in the human heart which hesitates to trust the true memory of the risen Christ, His Victory over death and to belie the power of His resurrection and His presence in the Blessed Sacrament. Pray that youth will be enlightened by the Holy Spirit to be bold in times when the Eucharist needs to be exposed, besides the annual Corpus Christi processions.

How often do we find young people genuflect and bow before the Blessed Sacrament with reverence. Do we find youth in churches, chapels and shrines reflecting for some time to know they have come to worship. In the Roman Missal the general instruction highlights the importance of reverence to the Eucharist. It is an invaluable reminder for adoration and prayers.

There are three stages in growth of Catholic life in the faith: the infant by baptism, the child by devotion and youth by liturgy. In other words, root, stem and branch. The Eucharist provides the Christian foundation of trust in Christ, to live without fear and to hope for the grace to enter God's kingdom with joy.

To rejuvenate Eucharist adoration we must first venerate the Blessed Sacrament with belief that Christ's presence is here with us for all ages to come. The Eucharist is the central part of the Church. It is the major uplift for the life of the Church in the world. For the faithful it is the gift of divine mercy given to us.

A child grows up with examples set by parents and relatives to respond positively to devotion and prayers to the Eucharistic Christ at Holy Mass. The Sacrament of Divine Love is the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Eucharistic adoration prepares the people of God to a larger awareness of the mystery and its connection to our daily life.

Catholic youth are called to be nourished and enkindled by the Blessed Sacrament in piety, placing Jesus in their homes and places of work.

Saint Teresa of Calcutta had a dedication to serve the poorest of the poor,

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Synod urges church to listen to young people

Vatican City: The Catholic Church and all its members must get better at listening to young people, taking their questions seriously, recognizing them as full members of the church, patiently walking with them and offering guidance as they discern the best way to live their faith, the Synod of Bishops said.

While the synod's final document spoke of friendship, affection, sexuality and "sexual inclinations," those issues were not the center of concern in the lengthy final document released on Oct. 27.

The synod, which ran from Oct. 3-28 at the Vatican, brought together 267 voting members — cardinals, bishops, 18 priests and two religious brothers — and 72 experts and observers, including three dozen men and women under 30 to discuss "young people, the faith and vocational discernment."

The focus of the final document was on improving ways to support young Catholics' baptismal call to holiness, to welcome the contributions they make to the church and help them in their process of growing in faith and in deciding the state of life that would best correspond to what God wants from them.

The emphasis on the church listening to young people also led to an emphasis on the church listening to all people, renewing communities and structures for a "synodal church" where all members listen to, support and challenge one another and share responsibility for the church's one mission of spreading the Gospel.

"Listening is an encounter in freedom, which requires humility, patience, willingness to understand and a commitment to working out responses in a new way," the document said. "Listening transforms the heart of those who live it, above all when they take on an inner attitude of harmony and docility to the Spirit of Christ."

The bishops said they heard from many young people a need for "courageous cultural conversion and a change in daily pastoral practice" to promote the equality of women in society and in the church.

"An area of particular importance in this regard is the presence of women in church bodies at all levels, including in leadership roles, and the participation of women in church decision-making processes while respecting the role of the ordained ministry," the document said. "This is a duty of



justice."

The document acknowledged how, in some countries, young people are moving away from the church or question its teachings, especially on sexuality.

The church's response, the synod said, must be a commitment of time and patience as it helps young people "grasp the relationship between their adherence to faith in Jesus Christ and the way they live their affectivity and interpersonal relationships."

Church teaching that all people are called to chastity and to refraining from sexual relations outside the bond of marriage between a man and a woman must be presented clearly, but not with a judgmental attitude, it added.

The document mentioned young people's questions about homosexuality, sexual orientation and differences between men and women and called for "a more in-depth anthropological, theological and pastoral elaboration" on the church's position on those issues.

"The synod reaffirms that God loves every person and so does the church, renewing its commitment against all sexually-based discrimination and violence," the final document said. "It also reaffirms the decisive anthropological relevance of the difference and reciprocity between man and woman and considers it reductive to define the identity of persons solely on the basis of their 'sexual orientation.'"

Members of the synod also praised young Catholics who are involved in their parishes or communities, who dedicate themselves enthusiastically to service projects, who offer their time and talent to the celebration of parish liturgies and who are willing to do even more. However, the document said, too often young volunteers are met by priests and other adults who doubt their commitment or preparation or are simply unwilling to share responsibility with them.

While young people can feel overlooked or ignored, synod members said such attitudes are detrimental to the church and its missionary mandate. The final docu-

ment said young people challenge the church to be better and their questions force older church members to find clearer ways to express church teaching or to respond to new situations with the wisdom of faith.

"Their criticism, too, is needed because not infrequently we hear through them the voice of the Lord asking us for a conversion of heart and a renewal of structures," the synod members said.

The clerical sex abuse scandal and financial scandals in the Catholic Church are leading many people, not only young people, away from the faith, the synod acknowledged.

Apparently responding to some bishops who felt the draft document's section on abuse gave too much prominence to the topic's importance in the United States, Ireland, Australia and Chile, the final document treated it in three paragraphs rather than the earlier five.

However, the final document, like the draft, said: "The synod expresses gratitude to those who have had the courage to denounce the evil they have suffered: they help the church become aware of what has happened and of the need to react decisively."

Behind the crime of abuse, it said, there lies a "spiritual void" and a form of exercising power that led some priests to believe their ordination gave them "power" over others rather than called them to serving others.

The final document urged particular attention to marriage preparation programs as "a kind of 'initiation' for the sacrament of matrimony" and to careful selection of candidates for the priesthood and to seminary programs to ensure that future priests are men who can recognize the gifts of others, relate well to women and men of all ages and are devoted to serving the poor.

Young people who are poor or experience discrimination — especially migrants, victims of religious persecution and those struggling to find employment — received special attention at the synod and in the final document.

In fact, the synod said, "the world of young people is also deeply marked by the experience of vulnerability, disability, illness and pain" and Catholic communities have not always done everything possible to welcome and assist them.

Source: CNS

Inspiration!

Behaviours that kill your confidence

The 'self - image' is the key to human personality and human behaviour. Change the self image and you change the personality and the behaviour."

- Maxwell Maltz, Author

RESEARCHERS ESTIMATE THAT the non-verbal communication represents two-thirds of the total communication we engage in with others. In today's open work spaces and cramped meeting rooms, office employees are constantly engaged in non-verbal communications. How can we ensure that we are sending the right signals to our other people throughout the day? Let's take a look at a few non-verbal cues that can lead to trouble as well as some remedies

We all know what an advantage it is to be confident and how, having self-confidence can make a huge difference in your professional, social and personal life. Most of us have heard of easy practices to help increase confidence but, it's equally important to make sure that you are not unknowingly doing things that undermine your confidence.

Seeking approval from everyone :

Confident people have no interest in pleasing everyone they meet. They understand that not everyone is going to agree with them and that's okay! Instead, they focus on building quality relationships with the people they value, rather than focusing on winning over every person they meet. Don't let the opinions of the masses define what you can and can't do in life. By letting go of the need to impress everyone, you will begin to truly impress

those who actually matter to your future. When the important people in your life have your back, you will feel way more confident.

Needing to be always right :

Some people think they are right (even when they are wrong) and they want you to know it too! Well, confident people take a stand not because they think they are always right, but because they are not afraid to be wrong. They know that finding out what is right is a lot more important than being right. When they are wrong, they appreciate the lesson they learned from it.

Letting success get to your head or failure to your heart :

If success makes you arrogant, you haven't really succeeded. If failure makes you determined, you haven't really failed. Think about success and failure differently. Don't take everything that goes wrong personally and don't get a big head when everything goes right either. Be a humble, life-long learner. Create, learn, love, experience, succeed, fail, make progress and find treasure in each day.

Making excuse after excuse :

Confident people take ownership of their actions. They don't blame the traffic for being tardy at work - they know they were late. They don't excuse their shortcomings with excuses like, "I don't have time" - they make the time and they keep on improving until they see results. Even a tiny effort is infinitely more productive than a big excuse. So, stop seeing every obstacle as an excuse and start seeing

those obstacles as forming a pathway to your goals.

Ignoring or second-guessing your intuition :

Intuition is very real and something that is never wise to ignore, because it comes from deep within your subconscious and is derived from your previous life experiences. If everyone else is telling you 'yes' but your gut is telling you otherwise, it's usually for a good reason. When faced with difficult decisions, seek out all the information you can find, become as knowledgeable as you possibly can and then listen to your God-given instincts. Know that trusting your intuition is equivalent to trusting your true self and the more you trust your trust self, the more control you have of making your goals come true.

Hiding from new life experiences :

It's so easy to get stuck in a weekly routine, doing the same things, watching the same shows, eating the same foods. This may keep you feeling comfortable but, it could be killing your confidence. Just as in nature, if you are not growing you are dying! Get out into the world and explore. Meet new people and travel. New positive experiences in life will keep you feeling on-fire and excited about your future, you will feel alive in new ways. That way, you will fuel your self-confidence every day of your life.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEHAVIOUR

- When we let the expectations of others or our own unreasonable self-expectations rule, we silence the power of our legacies.
- Through our behaviours, we often add to our own burdens. But, when you eliminate behaviours that kill your credibility, you are working the positive shift.
- Personality is what defines a person. This includes unique aspects about him, his character, his beliefs and his behaviour.

(Contd.. from p. 14)

journey that brought joy and inspiration back to one and all. In spite of all the many advanced entertainment systems that proliferate today.....drama continues with a section of people always coming on stage to keep drama alive and developing progressively, into the modern era.

Approaching the grand finale : Now in October 2018, hosting 12 excellent entertaining PlaysKonkani Natak Sabha (KNS) organised Drama Festival. The much awaited drama festival inaugurated at Don Bosco Hall, Mangalore was inaugurated on October 6, 2018, by lighting the lamp with Rev. Victor Vijay Lobo, Procurator of Mangalore Diocese along with President of Mand Sobhan Louis J. Pinto.

In warmth all recalled the services done by Konkani Natak Sabha to the culture and heritage of Konkani in past 75 years, Louis J. Pinto, a 'Konkani promoter to the core' congratulated the Natak Sabha on behalf of Mand Sobhan and remembered the achievement of Konkani Natak Sabha for providing opportunity to thousands of artists in the Konkani World. The work of Konkani should be really satisfactory and appreciated, he said. In the Drama Festival, dramas will be staged every Saturday and Sunday at 6 PM and 7.30 PM till October 21, 2018 - At the final show, senior dramatist, writer and early KNS functionary Austin D'Souza Prabhu a well known personality and Konkani lover from USA was the graceful chief guest and was given a standing welcome and applause.

Glimpse of old memories : The "Golden Jubilee souviner 1993" brings many fond memories, the personalities honoured were Fr.Cyril Andrade Cap, Prof Alban Castelino, Louis Netto, V P Kamath, Charles Pinto, Arthur Rasquinha.... Seasoned and recognised konkani writers who have contributed are : .Late Wify Re-bimbus, Late.Prof Bennet.Pinto.... Late P F Rodrigues..Late Msgr. Alexander D'Souza.. Benna Ruzai Fr.Francis D'Souza, Cyril J Sequiera...

every word is marked with love, value.

Some of the old memorable nostalgic dramas/plays/skits that are associated with KNS and DBH are 'Vignanth Jeek' M P D'Sa was an early one, 'Kazarache Dothurn' was revived many times and is still popular, 'Dotth', (dowry) by S S Prabhu, 'Raithak Ziith' also by S S Prabhu, 'Fatima Chi Saibeen' first performed for the inauguration of DBH in 1951, and again revived several times. 'Tulu Natak' in 1953 raised funds for other causes too, 'Sumyacho passao', was another very popular passion play that people of old used to compare with the German Oberammergau passion play, it went through many innovations and was staged for years. 'Whistling wizard of India' an English play by M J Samuel in 1956 got replays too, 'Khristache Janan' Birth of Christ, by M P D'sa, was a very popular play that was staged year after year, 'Neetik Zaith' J B Rasquinha in 1963 was another memorable one. In those times like the Hindi films, songs were an integral part of the plays that used to stretch to 3 hours....and the songs very interestingly had Hindi film tunes copied unabashedly with Konkani lyrics, also local Tulu plays were a sure influence ! It is indeed a revolution to see that Konkani and other parallel Kanarite languages have gained a higher place today. Cultural catalysts like KNS, Sahitya academies, religious bodies of all kinds and so on have done much to see that recognition in the 8th schedule has given Konkani a place in the curriculum of schools and colleges, a chair in the Mangalore Univ, and better academic profile. Modern information technology is undoubtedly making a giant impact and the need of the hour is to make the younger generations more comfortable and proud of their mother tongue and culture which will keep alive family spirit and community for times to come. Digitization of the language is immediately the need. KNS will do well to serve the people in changing times ahead, a mirror of a global outlook for 'Smart Mangaluru' in the new 'Bhandhavya' (close ties) that our new bishop has been inspired by... a 'Smart City with a heart'.

Bishops Synod's Final Report!

The 'Final Report' of the 15th General Session of the 'Synod of Bishops', held on the topic, "*Young People, Faith and Vocational Discernment*", was released on Saturday 27 October, 2018.

The 55-page final report had 167-paragraphs. The report is broken into three parts, each titled after parts of the *New Testament* "account of Jesus meeting his disciples on the road to Emmaus – He walked with them: Their eyes were opened: They set out at once" (*cf. Luke 24:13-35*). Each part contains chapters, and smaller sections within the chapters.

Briefly, the 167-paragraph document states, "The Church struggles to convey the beauty of the Christian vision of the body and sexuality", and therefore, "a search for more adequate methods is urgently required."

It begins by explaining that the Catholic Church has a rich *Tradition!* This Tradition includes, "The Catechism of the Catholic Church, St John Paul II's catechesis on *the Theology of the Body*, Benedict XVI's Encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est*, and Pope Francis' Apostolic exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*.

Other topics included within the document are: synodality, issue of abuse, digital age, migration, art, music, , violence and persecution, suffering, education, and seminary formation.

The Synod's final document also touches on the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church, vocation, the art of discerning, formation of conscience, the role of youth in renewing the Parish community, works of mercy, and the centrality of the Liturgy in the life of the Church – "how they recognized Jesus in the Breaking of the Bread" (*Luke 24:35b*).

—Dr. Trevor Colaso,
Memphis, TN. USA.

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6771 CANADA : Bombay born, broughtup and educated Kerlaite Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1987), Ht. 180 cms, Wt. 75 kgs, Fair Complexion, Handsome, Edn. B. Tech Computer Engineering, working as a Software Engineer. Permanent Resident Canada. Seeks a well educated girl from Canada, U.S. Or Mumbai. Good looking, ready to settle in Canada. Keralite / Mangalorean / South Indian. Contact email : anthony99ignatius@gmail.com.

6833. AUSTRALIA : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in November 1986), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 78 kgs, Fair, Handsome, PR Holder, Edn. Masters by Research in Biotechnology from QUT, Australia, Currently working with reputed company in Quality Assurance dept., Seeking a qualified and God fearing Mangalorean RC girl. Contact email : lizbf2017@gmail.com

6713 MUMBAI : Mangalorean RC Bachelor, (Born in September 1989), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 67 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. (Extc) working as a Sales Engineer. Contact email : coelho.helen@yahoo.co.in

6930. GOA : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in August 1979), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. SCC and Diploma in Electrical, Electrical Contractor. Contact email : cajetan1208@gmail.com

6788 MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in May 1987), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 75 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn.

Diploma in Industrial Electronics, BAMAC., Having own business. Contact email : info@icmtraining.in

6918. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Widow, (Born in November 1953), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 58 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. D.P.E., Well settled. Contact email : louisn23@hotmail.com

6852. MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in August 1983), Ht. 5' 8", Well built, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Bachelors in Hospitality and Tourism Management. Working as a Chef Head Chef in **DUBAI**. Contact email : joslyn.gomes@gmail.com

6917. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1985), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. MBA, working as an Engineer. Contact email : delphinempinto@gmail.com

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6805 ABUDHABI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in February 1984), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. 12th std., + correspond B.Com., studied in Mumbai, working in Bank as Recovery Officer. Contact email : pawan.sana@gmail.com

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: dan2mills@gmail.com

6930. GOA : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in August 1979), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. SCC and Diploma in Electrical, Electrical Contractor. Contact email : cajetan1208@gmail.com

6867. PUNE : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in April 1984), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA Finance, working For Bank. Contact email : adrian.aries@gmail.com

6857. AUSTRALIA : Mumbai born and broughtup Tamilian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in July 1988), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., IHM., Working as a Store Associate in **Australia** and is a permanent resident. Contact email : simonsigo31@gmail.com

6705. MUMBAI : Anglo Indian RC bachelor, (Born in November 1979), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 45 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. H.S.C., Dip. Hotel Mgt., working for Groups of Hotels in Dubai. Contact email : dnfernz@gmail.com OR 9975878894

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6968. DUBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in March 1990), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduate in Commerce. Working in Dubai since 2014 in Indian Consulate Office. Designation Senior Customer Executive.

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6964. DUBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in January 1987), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 58 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. 2nd year PUC, working as an Export Executive. Contact email : dorathydsilva@gmail.com OR 9930785590

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6813 USA : Mangalorean Protestant Divorcee, (Born in March 1951), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. Medium, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBBS.,

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6798 MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in November 1987), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 74 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. BE, working as a 2nd Engineer in Foreign Ship. Well settled, handsome, simple and humble. Contact email :

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6789 MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in December 1989), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 81 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA in Human Resources, working as a Deputy Manager in Bank. Contact email :

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5996. MUMBAI : RC Bachelor (Born in November 1974) / 5'8", B.E., working in Senior position

reputed IT firm. Seeks alliance from R.C. spinster educated good family background Pl. reply with photograph and details to keithcardozo@hotmail.com OR 9820338755

6113. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in August 1976), Ht. 6', Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. HSC., Dip. in A.C. Mechanic, working as a AC Technician in Muscat.

Contact Email :
suaresroshan@gmail.com

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

Contact email :
dsouzamalcolmneil@gmail.com. Phone/SMS 09480157258

6684. MUMBAI : Goan RC bachelor, (Born in January 1969), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 60 kgs, Edn. High School, working as at Airport as Counter Staff. Contact email : danrox009@gmail.com.

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6944. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in July 1991), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 74 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Com., working as Accounting & Finance. Contact email :

lavinadsouza16@gmail.com

6897. UAE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic spinster, (Born in October 1989), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 55 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA, working as a HR Executive. Contact email :

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6887. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1989), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 50 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M. Sc., (Nursing), Nurse by profession. Contact email :

mauricequadras@gmail.com

6883. MANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divorcee, (Born in December 1983), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 68 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., MBA, working. Contact email :

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6882. MANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1988), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.V. Sc. Assistant Professor by profession. Contact email :

clarencemiranda5811@yahoo.co.in

6881. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1990), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 64 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MDS in Endodontics, working, Seek alliance from well settled RC Bachelor upto 30 yrs. Kindly reply with full details & Photograph to email :

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6880. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1988), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 66 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A. Contact email :

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terrenceeq123@gmail.com

6877. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1991), Ht. 5', Medium Weight, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working for Bank in Investment Department, Contact email :

ashwinilewis18@gmail.com

6876. DUBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in May 1985), Ht. 5' 3", Average built, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA - (Finance), working in MNC in DUBAI. Seeks educated, well settled bachelor from decent & respectable family between the age 34-38 yrs. preferably working in U.A.E. Contact with photo & details to email :

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andy.franky@hotmail.com

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6869. MANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1985), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 52 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B. Com., pursuing MBA, working as an Executive Asst. in **BANGALORE**. Contact email : weddingvow85@gmail.com

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6795. ALLAHABAD : Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in March 1978), Ht. 5', Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., Workaig for MNC. Contact email : sujata.josephine@gmail.com

6790. MUMBAI : Roman Catholic Spin-

ster, (Born in October 1987), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 58 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.A., LL.B., (M.A - I), working as a Legal Executive. Contact email : robertalbuquerque10@gmail.com

6776. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic spinster, (Born in September 1992), Ht. 5' 1", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA, working as an Executive. Contact email : neilcarvalho1234@gmail.com

6772. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic spinster, (Born in August 1984), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 59 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Accountant. Contact email : josephpiedadepereira@yahoo.in

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6760. KUWAIT : Mangalorean Roman Catholic spinster, (Born in November 1987), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 70 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., MBA Finance, working as a Administration in IT firm. Contact email : astridmathias@gmail.com

6759. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic spinster, (Born in April 1991), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 45 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.A. (Economics), M. Communication, working as a Account Manager. Contact email : anlobo21@gmail.com / avi03lobo@gmail.com.

6536 MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1991), Ht. 168cms, Wt. 64 kgs, Beautiful, Fair Complexion, Edn. Master in Dental, studing PG in Doctorate, Dactor by profession. Contact email : kcmesm@gmail.com

6492. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Born Again Spinster, (Born in May 1987), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 53 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA in Finance, PGDM., working for a co-op. Bank in Mumbai. Contact email : brinliafernandes@yahoo.com

6866. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in May 1991), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduate, Service. Contact email : bidisharocking@gmail.com

6861. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman

Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1991), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., PG Banking & Finance, working as a Clerk in Bank.

Contact email :
michaelfernandes59@gmail.com

6860. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1991), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.M.M. (Mass Media), working for IT in MNC. Contact email : lgp1891@gmail.com

6859. KUWAIT : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1986), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., in Physiotheraphy (Orthopedics), U.K. working in Kuwait. Contact email : nisha_sequeira@hotmail.com

6448 MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1985), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, beautiful, Edn. B.Com., working as an Asst. HR Officer. Contact email :

genesalis@yahoo.com

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rosemarybharda@yahoo.com

6032 DUBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1976), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 41 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Secretary. Contact email : track_1976@yahoo.com OR 9730454857

MATRIMONIAL

6679. USA : US Based RC Spinster, 28, 5' 3", B. Tech., MBA from premier institutions, talented, caring, slim, attractive personality, senior manager in renowned MNC invites alliance from well-educated, professionally qualified, well-placed RC bachelors with good family background and strong Christian values. Kindly e-mail profile with picture to msp241289@gmail.com

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Praise the Lord Jesus! Alleluia

If you remain in me and my words remain in you. Then you will ask for anything you wish and you shall have it.

(Jn. 15:7)

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conducted by

Rev. Fr. Franklin D'Souza

Shivmoga Diocese



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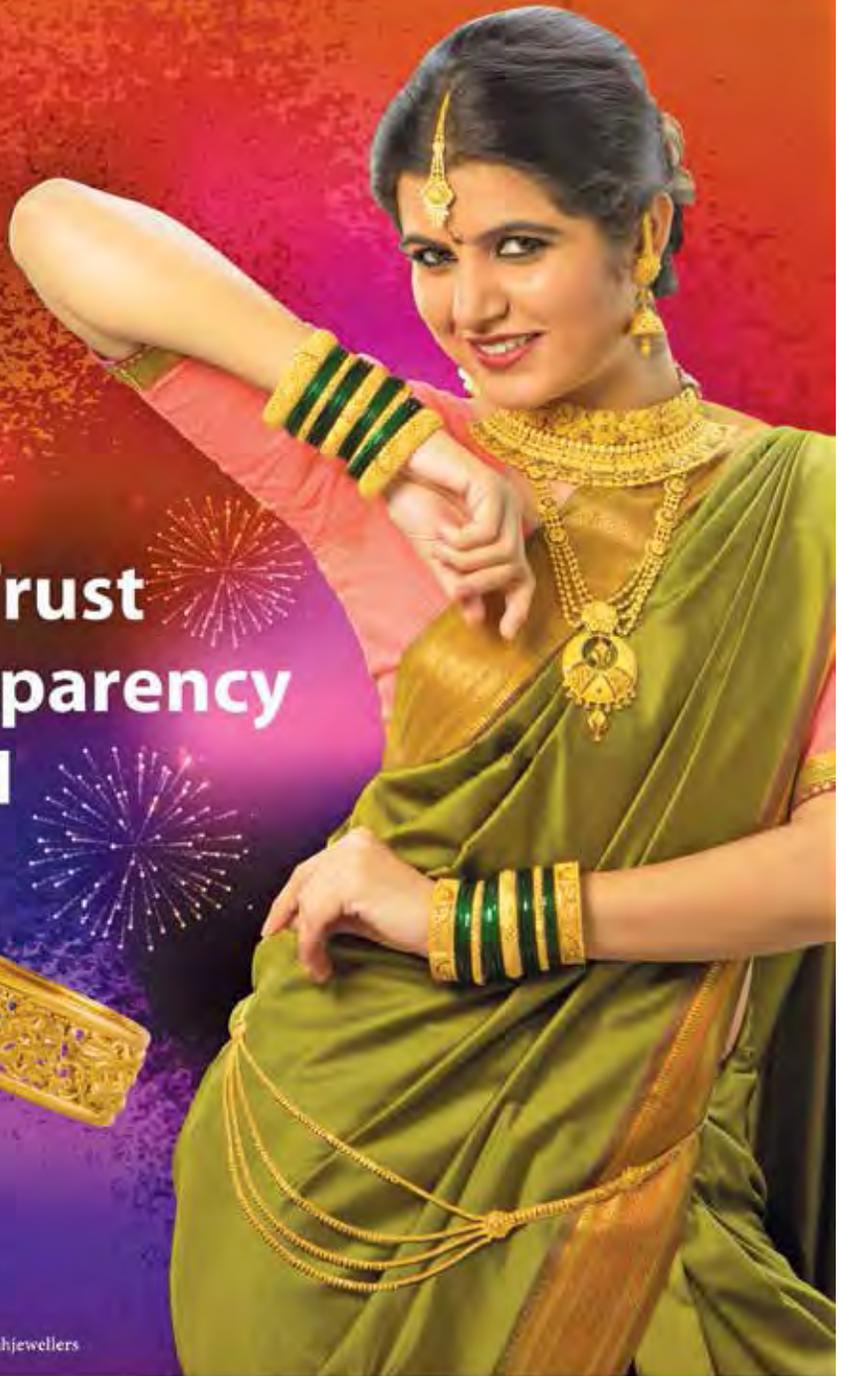
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