

THE SECULAR CITIZEN

Vol.30 Issue No.33 ■ (Total Pages 20) ■ Mumbai, 16 - 22 August, 2021 ■ Rs. 10

A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY

Caring For The Environment An Independence Day 2021 Resolve

By Ladislaus Louis D'Souza

"The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn."

– Alvin Toffler

Seventy-four years after Independence from foreign rule and 71 years since becoming a 'republic', our dearly beloved Motherland, India, finds herself saddled with one of the most monumental problems of the modern day! And that is: disposal of the multifarious garbage that the country is fast producing. The two-pronged issue here is care for the environment and the practicalities of garbage disposal at various levels. It is pertinent to note that the resolution of the issue essentially involves unlearning the way we look at garbage and its disposal, with a view to contributing towards the environmental good of the Earth as a whole.

For long has the issue of non-biodegradable garbage dominated the garbage disposal scene both domestically and internationally! In fact, if there's one thing the endless lockdown as well as the unending opening up of the same has thrown up apart from extra pounds on the tummy and mounds of garbage on the streets, it is ideas galore in terms of recycling and disposal of unwanted stuff, particularly non-biodegradable items! The internet is loaded with ideas on the exercise and individuals and groups are constantly experimenting with novel concepts!



Participants of a neighbourhood "Local Waste Management Workshop" organized by a private cooperative housing society for its members in collaboration with the Eco-Cell of a Parish, were asked to come prepared with practical ideas and suggestions. They were also asked to bring along something concrete that would express a concept effectively. Varied kind of waste was brought along and various ideas from *recycling to composting* were thrown up: raw food waste for compost; old unwanted clothes made re-wearable or converted into things of daily use; flowers from plastic bottles and what not! By far, what really made an impact on the gathering was the presentation by a young Animation professional named Wayne. It concerned stuffing used plastic bottles of any size with waste that stood no chance of degrading or disintegrating whatsoever.

To help ascertain the difference between *biodegradable* and *non-biodegradable* waste Wayne's 'powerpoint' clarified as follows:

In *biodegradable*, with its root *grad*, "to step or move", and its prefix *de-* "downward", we get an adjective describing things that can be broken down into basic substances through normal environmental processes. While animal and plant products are *biodegradable*, mineral substances such as metal, glass and plastic are not. Newly developed *biodegradable* plastics are now beginning to appear in various products. However, "*biodegradable*" products can vary greatly in how long they take to break

(Contd.. on p. 3)

Freedom For Me

The month of August spells freedom for our beloved country India. Technically freedom means the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants without hindrance or restraint. Again, Freedom is all about liberty, equality, opportunity, fraternity, but what does freedom mean for me? Isn't Freedom all about having the right to be different? Sure, for me, freedom is the ability to express myself the way I want to be, and the way I want to live my life. There is no set pattern or uniformity on how my life should be. With freedom come choices; I can choose my own moral compass and make my own decisions. Living in a secular country, freedom means I can choose my own religion.

Why is freedom so important? It is important because it allows us to be ourselves, work together, to live in a place that embodies traits like compassion, empathy and acceptance of

people while maintaining autonomy. It is important because it gives impetus to our well being and is in tune with our human nature. Something is "free" if it can change easily and is not constrained in its present state.



by:
**Dr Jeanette
Pinto**

Is freedom a human right? Indeed, it is. Human rights are fundamental rights and freedoms that belong to every single one of us. These rights are inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. Some human rights include the right to life, liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education and many more. In all there are 30 rights and freedoms that belong to all of us. (See Universal Declaration of Human Rights)

There are three types of freedom. The first kind is "freedom from," a freedom from the constraints of society. The second is "freedom to," it is a freedom to do what we want to do. Thirdly, there is "freedom to be," a freedom not just to do what we want to do, but a freedom to be who we were meant to be. The gift of freedom means giving equal opportunity to everyone for liberty and pursuit of happiness. Freedom is not just something we think it is, it has a different value for different people. Freedom of expression permits one to express one's own ideas and opinions through the medium of writing, speech, and other forms of communication.

Freedom for me means to be able to learn from my life experiences and mistakes. If I didn't have freedom, I would have to do and follow what the political and other authorities always tell me to do. I wouldn't have the opportunity to make mistakes so it would be harder to learn about life. It also means having the time to do things right. The dictionary defines freedom as the power or right to act, speak, or think without hindrance or restraint. Well, that completely wraps up everything that Jesus

Christ has taught us. We all know what physical and emotional oppression and pain is but what does spiritual freedom look like? God provides truth in His Word that helps us overcome the enemy's works and oppression in our life and leads us into spiritual freedom as a new creation, with a change of heart.

People keep their sexual and other addictions hidden because they know that it's bad. They feel embarrassed and ashamed. When we sin, we feel uneasy, downcast, also often unwilling to change. Repentance however is the answer to feel free. Most often people suffer regret, guilt and feel imprisoned; repentance leads to forgiveness and sets the person free. It has a vibrant inner healing power and if one is willing to change, it transforms people. What more can one ask for? A person's mental slate becomes clean and he feels liberated, redeemed and peaceful.

One of the most profound mysteries of life is how natural freedom and spiritual freedom operate so differently. Natural freedom is interwoven with political, social, economic, mental and other worldly freedoms. We are born free, hence spiritual freedom is clearly the freedom of the children of God under grace. It has a firm foundation of the truth from God's Word, which is established in our hearts so that we can stand our ground against the wrongs in life. Believing in Jesus, obeying His Word, and knowing the Truth brings spiritual freedom.

Spiritual freedom refers to a state where a person is socially and spiritually free, allowing him to prosper both materially and spiritually. This freedom is the power to exercise our God-given right to personal liberty in our spiritual journey, to find our purpose and fulfill our destiny in this life. The ultimate freedom is spiritual liberty in God, and this can only be experienced when a person abandons their carnal nature and allows Christ to become the Lord and Master of their life. Salvation is the only thing that one looks for. Hence freedom for me is to create that new rhythm for life; it is not running away from God in fact it is running towards Him.



Jubel D'Cruz

Seen in this picture is Jubel D'Cruz our regular writer receiving an award from the publishers of 'Afternoon Voice', a daily newspaper published from Mumbai.

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Subscriptions Rate:

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down. Bread, for example, may take barely a fortnight to degrade, and paper could vanish in a couple of months, while certain "biodegradable" plastic milk or egg cartons could take several years.

Wayne then passed around the three stuffed bottles that he had brought along, all three sealed for obvious reasons! But being transparent, one could see tightly packed into those bottles plastic bags & empty plastic/foil tablet sachets, discarded u-clips, staple-pins & clothes-pegs, bottle-caps & labels from bottles, toothbrushes & empty toothpaste tubes, used Tea-lights, discarded masks & gloves – the list could go on! Then, asking the gathering to fetch him an empty bottle and whatever waste they had that was to be disposed off, he picked up a stick lying nearby and within no time stuffed a massive amount of discarded non-biodegradable stuff into that bottle with room to spare! And now the piece de resistance!

"Well," said Wayne, "any questions

on this 'stuffed bottle' project?" A participant instantly stood up and asked, "In the first place, why stuff non-biodegradable waste into empty plastic bottles at all?" Another wanted to know: "What do we ultimately do with all these stuffed bottles?" From the first visual in the slide show that followed, participants learnt of how sturdy garden walls were being constructed with discarded bottles stuffed with waste. "And look at this," pointing to the next slide, "an entire house built with walls comprising of stuffed bottles of varying sizes! Tell me, friends, do you now believe that there is no limit to the amount of waste that can be stuffed into empty plastic bottles?" "Yes!!" was the unanimous response. "Then you will be surprised that there is also no limit to what you can do with those stuffed bottles, if you can only put on your thinking caps and think really hard!"



by Ladislaus Louis D'Souza

There is no gainsaying the fact that, even if we decide to simply discard the stuffed bottles along with the rest of our garbage, the municipality will have no difficulty disposing them off appropriately. In the process, we will

have done ourselves two huge favours! Firstly, we will have saved our country's drains and nullahs from dangerous toxic blockades that lead to stormwater accumulation which eventually leads to flooding in the monsoons. Secondly, we will, in the long run, have learnt how to actively contribute towards saving the environment!

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Women Religious Report – A Lay Perspective

One must appreciate the lengthy report by Ladislaus D'souza on the status of women religious in India, as published in *The Secular Citizen* (9/8/21). It is based on an international webinar organised by Voices of Faith on 10/7/21, occasioned by an 86 page book "It's High Time: Women Religious speak up on gender justice in the Indian Church". There were 370 participants in the webinar. While largely agreeing with the same, one needs to also see things from a lay perspective to arrive at a balanced view. I am responding to the various points mentioned in the report by the writer, and not on the book itself, as I have not seen the same.

CLERICALISM: This is the bane of the Catholic Church, and no less a person than Pope Francis, has repeatedly drawn attention to it. This attitude is in no way limited to women religious.

SACRAMENTAL BLACKMAIL: This seems grossly exaggerated. In over 50 years of public life in the church I have never heard of a single case of this. There may be stray cases, but as the old saying goes, one swallow does not a summer make. On the other hand it is more often the laity, especially the poorer and voiceless ones, who are sometimes denied the sacraments on specious grounds. Lest we forget, at the Last Supper itself, Jesus did not deny the "sacrament" to his betrayer Judas. Was Jesus then guilty of sacrilege? Perish the thought.

MALE-FEMALE RELATIONSHIPS: Making a comparison with Sts Francis and Claire of Assisi is odious, to say the least. How many contemporary religious (Franciscans and Clarists included) are in any way close to the heroic virtues of penance, prayer and sacrifice that these saints of As-

sis practiced? However, there is a growing tendency among priests and religious that non-sexual friendship is OK, even if it is far from platonic. New age psychologists and counsellors advocate these relationships, especially at some seminars or centres of "Psychology & Spirituality". Again, to quote an old saying, "Fire and ice cannot co-exist. Either the fire will go out, or the ice will melt".

LOW WAGES: This is absurd. Are nuns serving without seeking reward, or are they employees? On the one hand they want to be exalted as "Sisters" in parishes, being seated at the high table, and on the other they are now claiming workers' rights. I suggest that they first look at the status and emoluments of paid catechists, often referred to as church bearers.

A recent study conducted by Rev Gilbert Choondal SDB establishes beyond doubt that they are more often than not, treated as personal servants of the clergy; with no rights, pathetic wages, and no hope of upward social mobility, to which all workers aspire.

The report further states that the nuns are used for such menial tasks because the clergy distrusts the laity. This is no doubt true. But I am here reminded of the wisdom of the late George Menezes, my mentor in public life. I once went to him complaining that I was a victim of circumstances. He shot back at me, "Nobody is a victim unless they allow themselves to be victimized". This may not be entirely true, but if nuns feel that they are being victimized or exploited in the parishes then they need to stand up and be counted, just as we lay leaders do.

LACK OF CLERICAL UNDERTANDING: This is stating the obvious, yet not quite right. Clerics spend

years in formation and are taught everything about religious life, lay participation, Vatican II ecclesiology, Canon Law etc. However, they deliberately choose to ignore these teachings. It is not because of a lack of understanding, but a lack of willingness to surrender and share power in a participatory fraternal church.

ONGOING FORMATION: This is hilarious. Nuns are always taking off for courses in various centres. They have ample opportunities for ongoing formation in multiple ecclesiastical institutes, including in seminaries; and even abroad. To the contrary, it is the diocesan priests who lack ongoing formation because they believe that getting ordained is the summit of their existence. They have arrived, and do not require anything more. If at all any section of the church is denied ongoing formation it is the laity. Their "formation" ends with their Confirmation classes. Finito.

SURVEY NOT PALATABLE: Naturally; such a survey will never be palatable or acceptable to bishops. Will a business honcho ever accept the findings of a survey conducted by his "subordinates"?

CRI COLD FEET: This is the ultimate irony. The Conference of Religious India (CRI) is like all other "recognised" national Catholic organizations like the CBCI, CCBI, CPI, AICU, NCCWI, and many others with an "I" in their names. I have not seen any of these august bodies coming out strongly against errant bishops like Gallela Prasad of Kadapah, Frightening Franco of Jalandhar or William the Conqueror of Mysore. Nor have I seen any of these bodies speaking up in support of the purging and reform agenda initiated by our dear Pope Francis.

CONCLUSION: In an earlier similar



by chhotebhai *

(Contd.. on p. 5)



We need a statue to inspire us

Our country is teeming with thousands of statues, but barring a few national heroes, very few serve to inspire us. Most of these statues are of politicians. I believe we should have a statue that will fire the imagination of the nation to to greater height... to reach the unreachable.

I believe a gold-plated life-size metallic statue, of Neeraj Chopra, poised to release his javelin will serve to inspire and fire the nation to stratospheric heights, not only in the field of sports but in the all round development of the nation. The javelin

(Contd.. from p. 4)

report one of its authors had claimed that women religious are treated worse than the laity! This is the height of absurdity. Ask any real "mother" standing outside the gate of a convent school seeking to meet the "Sister" principal for the admission of her child. Dear women religious of India, many of you like Mother Teresa, Sr Rani Maria FCC and Valsa Mathew SCJM have sacrificed your lives for those whom you sought to serve. You also have the wonderful example of the Medical Mission Sisters who gave up their prestigious Holy Family Hospitals in Bombay, New Delhi, Patna and Mandar (Ranchi) to go back to serving the poor in the villages. Such lives are an inspiration, surveys notwithstanding. If you are victimised, fight back and stand up; and if you are inspired by the Lord Jesus, then press on regardless.

** The writer has been closely associated with various services in the institutionalised Catholic Church for the last 52 years*

poised for a launch resembles the pose made famous by legendary Usain Bolt, and is sure to capture the imagination of the nation. Replicas of the statue, in the form of statuettes in varying sizes may be handed out at prize distribution ceremonies, not only in sports but all events, even in academics as it represents our zeal to reach greater heights

—Prof Robert Castellino,
Malad

Coronavirus is a plague from God

Coronavirus is a plague from God. It is God's wrath on His people for having sinned. It is mentioned in the Holy Bible.

This has also been foretold by Our Lady of Fatima to the three shepherd children of Portugal on October 13, 1917. "If my people do not turn away from their wicked ways, I will send my wrath upon them". We have taken God out of every area of our life and as a result of this, our country is in a tumult.

Chronicles 7:14 of the Holy Bible says, "If my people who are called by my name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn away from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven and will forgive their sins and heal their land." Today, the world is full of sin and there is no repentance at all.

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Prop. B. D'Souza

People are committing one sin after another. All they keep saying is, "The world is doing it, so what is there if I also do the same." They are listening to the devil who is trapping them because he (the devil) wants to take them to hell.

They are listening to the voice of the devil but are not listening to the voice of God who is telling them not to sin.

God's voice is soft, the devil's voice is harsh. "The wages of sin is death"

(Romans 6:23) and we all know that.

—Jubel D'Cruz,
Mumbai

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Religion Dominating Everything Destroys Economies and Society

by Don Aguiar.

Have you noticed that a bronze medallist is generally happier than a silver medallist at the end of the game?

It's not incidental finding but proven fact in many research studies after studying reactions of silver medallists vs. bronze medallists!

Ideally, a silver medallist should be happier than the bronze. But, human

mind doesn't work like mathematics. This happens because of phenomenon of counterfactual thinking. A concept in psychology in which there is human tendency to create possible alternatives to life events that have already happened, that would be contrary to what happened.

Silver medallist thinks, "Oh I couldn't win the gold medal." Bronze medallist thinks, "At least I got a medal." Silver medal is won after losing, but Bronze medal is won after Winning.

This happens in our life also, we don't appreciate what we have but feel sad with what we don't have. Let's be grateful for our blessings, they far outweigh our problems, if we start counting.

Which brings us to, India's Muslim and Christian community being communally discriminated and harassed in terms of profile and power. Muslims and Christians are less than 20% of the population and are made to presently feel so threaten and discriminated against by the majority right wing Hindutva communal government. Today, the Muslim and Christian community feels their aspirations are being not represented and not supported. **From Churches and Mosques being vandalised and destroyed to Christian and Muslim worshipers being manhandled, victimised and persecuted, by the majority right wing communal activists, it is all finally mainstream and promoted extensively.**

Whenever religion starts playing a more and more dominant role in politics, governance, culture and societal norms, there are problems. **When everything is seen through the lens of religion, the consequences can be disastrous.** History has too many examples of religion mixing too much with politics, leading to the decline of a nation.

Pre-revolution Iran was a free, progressive society. Post fundamentalist takeover, Iran today is a near pariah, oppressive state with global sanctions against it. Pakistan has suffered immensely for choosing religion over a free democratic society. ISIS destroyed economies wherever it went. Afghanistan is an economic mess under the Taliban. **Religion dominating everything destroys economies and society.**

One might say that brand Hindutva promoted by the present Hindutva communal government is different. However, it

(Contd.. on p. 7)

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doesn't work that way. It isn't about a religion's teachings or text. **When a society places religion above all other values – justice, freedom, equality, opportunity, infrastructure, economy – a nation ultimately suffers. There is a slippery slope, where fundamentalism eventually takes over.**

Human beings are biologically wired to be clannish. We have an innate tendency to bond with 'people like us' and have aversion to 'people other than us'. This primitive tribalism instinct kept us safe in the jungles. However, it is a hindrance in the smooth running of a modern country, particularly India. We have more variety in culture, language, religion than any other nation. **If we decide to run the country based on clans and tribes, we will never focus on what really matters – good governance and growing our economy.**

Modern India was somewhat haphazardly designed, as the British left. However, modern India's design had a key asset – a secular democracy where everyone was equal and some institutions that enable a modern democracy – courts, parliament, executive and the bureaucracy. Fortunately, we not only inherited them from the British but also preserved them until date. **If we do not guard these institutions, if religion is all we care about, we risk giving up becoming an advanced nation and in the worst case, slipping into fundamentalism.**

Guarding our democracy, freedom and institutions isn't anti-national or anti-Religious. It's the duty of all Indians. For once we lose them, chances are they aren't ever coming back soon.

This may be the Hindutva moment with the Hindu communal government in power. But if thought that the Hindutva moment is okay to show Muslims and Christians their place in India (as second-class citizens), they are destroying something crucial. They are destroying equality, justice and harmony, all essential to make a modern, progressive nation. They are also enabling more fundamentalism. **For if Hindutva can dominate Muslims and Christians a little bit, why not a bit more? Where will we draw the line? Chances are, we won't be able to.**

Defining today's journalism

Today's journalism is a far cry from what it used to be earlier. In the past, you received majority of your news and information from your local newspaper published every morning.

If you didn't get it there, you watched the evening news on television after dinner. And in a few national newspapers, and that was it.

Today, relying on only one source to receive all of your news and information seems unheard of. Newspapers are still around today, but we have so much more to go along with them. We don't have to wait for an entire day for our news anymore.

Now we see the news as it's happening instead of getting recaps of it the next day. With the rise of the internet and the 24/7 news station, we have an abundance of news sources directly at our fingertips.

Journalism as a whole has changed in response. Instead of having time to fact check, journalists are urged to be the first to break the story. This rush to first often leads to misinformation being published, causing confusing and sometimes outrage.

What used to be a cardinal sin is now less of an issue because being the first to hit publish is such a priority.

Let's take a look at what journalism is today and some of the people changing it.

Journalism is the act of gathering, assessing, creating and presenting news and information. It is also the product of

these activities.

Journalism is the product of every newspaper you read, every news station you watch, and every news article you read on the internet.

Journalism is meant to place the public good above all else and uses specific methods to gather and assess information. In other words, journalism is meant to benefit the people, and journalists should routinely check what they're reporting on to be sure the information is verified and accurate.

Another side effect of the internet and the amount of data at our fingertips is the rise of data journalism. Data journalism is the use of data and number crunching to uncover, better explain, or provide context to a news story.

Data can be the tool used to tell a story, the source upon which a story is based, or both at the same time. It often involves the use of statistics, charts, and infographics.

Data journalism has become important because in today's world, anyone with a smartphone and a social media account can be a journalist. Multiple sources add information over social media, blogs, and videos as the news story is happening.

Today's journalists also face a new set of challenges. They're no longer the runaway experts in the fields they write in. Today, their readers may be smarter, and better informed than they are.

The one thing journalists don't have on their side anymore is time. They have to be first. They have to be fast. They don't have time anymore to become deeply engrossed in their stories. They don't have the time to learn and to ponder on their stories. They rely on quotes from other experts to shape their stories.

True investigative journalism is an art that is slowly fading. One of the main reasons is the money isn't there for it anymore. Doing a real investigative piece takes a lot of time, which in turn takes a lot of money.

The ad revenue they'd earn for the story would likely be a small fraction of what it cost to produce it. Because of this, investigative journalism is being replaced by 5-10 blog posts a day that will never have as much substance as an actual investigative piece.

— Jubel D'Cruz

International Youth Day 2021

12 August

Youth the Architects of Tomorrow

'International Youth Day' is being observed on the 12th day of August. This day was designated by the General Assembly of the United Nations, on 17 December 1999, in its Resolution 54/120. The day was recommended by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, Lisbon. This observance, as an awareness day about youth, kicked off in the year 2000, as a mark of the launch of the third millennium.

Drawing the attention of the governments and other organizations towards the cultural, social and legal concerns surrounding the youth, world over, is the purpose of the day. Workshops, meetings, cultural events and concerts, involving local, regional and national officials as well as youth organizations, are intended to be on the schedule, in order to make sense out of the day.

UNESCO, i.e., United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization, cautions the world that youth are not to be considered mere beneficiaries. They are essentially 'leaders and partners' in finding solutions to the issues faced by the world of today, of their world in particular. They have to be fully engaged in the process of social development and have to be supported in this task by the respective societies.

Audrey Azoulay, Director General of UNESCO, in her message for the international youth day, said, "Giving young people from all walks of life the opportunity to truly be active participants in the social and political life of their societies, as well as in the multilateral project, means ensuring that we are building a world that is truly for them".

Further, complimenting the 'resilience, resourcefulness and engagement' of the younger generation, the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres stated, "They are the young people who have risen up to demand climate action.

They are mobilizing for racial justice and gender equality and are the champions of a more sustainable world".

Arguing the cause of the youth further still, the UN Secretary General made a clarion call to the stakeholders of the human society in the following

words, "I call on leaders and adults everywhere to do everything possible to enable the world's youth to enjoy lives of safety, dignity and opportunity and contribute to the fullest of their great potential".

Tijjani Muhammad Bande, President of the UN General Assembly, declared that "Young people are the trail-blazers of progress". He proceeded to emphasize that 'ensuring young people everywhere access to just and equitable opportunities to fulfill their rights and aspirations' is a 'global responsibility'.

Appreciating their 'amazing contributions towards making a better future', Tijjani cautioned the world, saying "The potential for humanity to create a peaceful and prosperous future will not be reached as long as inequities and discrimination against youth re-

main commonplace and young people lack opportunities to have their voices heard".

These powerful voices from the top of the United Nations make it more than clear that youth is a significant reality in the world, not only amidst the senior generation, but also as regards the mainstream life of the humans, may it be family, institution, community, city, state, nation, continent or the entire world put together. Youth are not to be taken lightly or played down, in any way.

As per the estimation in 2000, there are 1.2 billion young people in the world between 15 and 24 years today, well, some 16 per cent of the global population. By 2030, the number is projected to have grown to 1.3 billion, that is, a 7 per cent increase of the youth. Recent estimates suggest that 600 million jobs would have to be created over the next 15 years to meet the needs of the employment of the youth.

As a matter of fact, engaging in the political and administrative processes of the educational institution, city, state, nation and globe is vital to the growth of the youth as 'informed, responsible and mature leaders', for today and tomorrow alike. Their participation can contribute to the social quality of the society, of the respective unit as well as of the whole.

On the contrary, it is terrible to see political parties using, misusing, abusing and plundering the lives of the youth in universities, colleges and even in schools. This is sure to severely tell upon the entire life of the youth and of the society. The youth could get derailed from the track of study, research and creative involvement in the society as educated and cultured persons.



Fr. Dr. M. D. Thomas



DIVO Konkani Weekly

Published from Mumbai

27th year of regular publishing

Subscription rates:

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Five years by post Rs. 2000

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Email: secular@sezariworld.com

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(Contd.. from p. 8)

Politicians have to refrain from such heartless crimes to the younger generation.

Young people can be effective 'builders of harmony and peace' in the society. Youth can contribute to preventing conflict, promoting social justice and sustaining fairness and balance in social life. They are capable of involving in countering extremism, terrorism, fanaticism and fundamentalism. Engagement of young people at the local, national and global levels is enriching for processes and institutions of a range of levels.

Therefore, youth require and deserve 'safe spaces' for life, studies, innovation, start up and work. Their voices, actions and initiatives have to be mainstreamed, duly recognized and warmly supported. The system of education has to be transformed, in view of making it inclusive and accessible for all young persons. Participation of the youth in political, economic, cultural and social processes of life is vitally important.

In the increasingly polarized world of ours, systems of governance at various levels are currently undergoing a crisis of legitimacy and relevance. Trust in public institutions seems to highly erode, due to selfish, second-rate and authoritarian ways. Political mechanisms and processes are running into a major deficit of democracy and inclusive principles. Administrative policies and practices mostly are not ethically sustainable. At the rear

of such a prickly state of affairs, the involvement of the youth in these sectors can definitely make a considerable difference.

In a world, country as well, that is under the serious grip of major challenges, like corona virus, political rivalry, communal distancing and climate change, concerted action at the local, national and global levels is the call of the hour. The active participation of the youth is sure to make a huge effect in combating these dangers. This is not a matter of choice, but is a binding duty for all those who are at the helm of affairs, running the show of the society and the country, at diverse levels.

Moreover, the senior generation seems to be highly inclined to keep the young under their thumb, heartlessly so. At least, they do not want to involve the young or pass on to the young, even what belongs to them by right or inheritance. Such a foul tendency to monopolize the show of life requires being revised, sooner the better. Balance has to be maintained between the age groups of seniors and juniors, in favour of the overall health and wellbeing of the human society.

In point of fact, youth is the most enjoyable period of life. There is a lot of stamina and energy in them. There are lots of laughter and enthusiasm in their lives. There are loads of curiosity, creativity and novelty in them. They want to experiment with life. They are a symbol of newness. They aspire to present alternatives to whatever is stale in the human society. They want to be responsible and accountable for the human culture.

What is more, young people are a new edition of the human beings. They require being recognized, encouraged and supported, in favour of the brighter future of the society. While guiding them in the best way possible with the wisdom of life they have gathered, will the senior generation have the good sense to make way for the younger generation, so that there could be better options for the nation and the human society? This is a razor sharp question to be answered today.

'International Youth Day 2021' is a great occasion for the senior generation to salute and bless all the youth of our country and of the whole world. Young people are the architects of tomorrow. They require blossoming up to the full stature of humanity, in view of leading our country and the world society to brighter prospects. This is a day for the seniors in general and those in responsible positions in particular to commit themselves to the above effect.

The author is Director, Institute of Harmony and Peace Studies, New Delhi, and has been committed to interfaith relations, national integration and social harmony, for the past over 40 years. He contributes to the above cause through lectures, articles, video messages, conferences, social interactions, views at TV channels, and the like.

He could be viewed, listened to and contacted at the following portals – websites 'www.mdthomas.in' (p), 'https://mdthomas.academia.edu', 'https://drmdthomas.blogspot.com' and 'www.ihpsindia.org' (o); social media 'https://www.youtube.com/InstituteofHarmonyandPeaceStudies', 'https://twitter.com/mdthomas53', 'https://www.facebook.com/mdthomas53'; email 'mdthomas53@gmail.com' and telephone 9810535378.

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Govt Jobs very attractive for youth now

vate firm or job and continue efforts for a Govt position in KPSC, so where is the difficulty? Note the KPSC web site and study it carefully.

A few suggestions and tips from a KPSC member :

****First,** please read newspapers daily... There are many candidates, who have not only cleared competitive exams, but secured ranks, only by reading newspapers daily. Keep on top of your local and Karnataka news. You should always be aware of what is happening around you, in neighbouring states and in neighbouring countries, to say the least.

****Second,** if you fail in one or two attempts, it does not matter... Please don't give up... Try hard and sure you will succeed soon..

****Third,** Don't try to find a job only in your native place. If possible, try to move away from Mangalore or the coastal region at least for a few initial years... You can think of coming back to Mangalore later for sure. If you travel to other regions, you get a lot of experience, which you will never be able to find in your own place.

****Fourth,** Don't take up a course, if you are not interested. These days, an idli or samosa seller earns more money than an office-goer. Be proud of any job you take up and don't stick to one place. Try to explore new areas and ideas. ****Fifth,** play a game every day, at least go for a walk and do basic exercises. They say health is wealth and nobody would like to see you as a sick person. Regular walking would help you maintain good health. Plan your life as far as possible and stick to your aims. A stone is never broken at the first try and all tries matter for a good result. Many citizens find fault and abuse politicians and officials of many shortfalls, negligence and corruption; one very practical way is to improve the human resource content here by better candidates aspiring to occupy these very vital positions to bring a better caliber of service delivery for clean and good governance in our land.

—Compiled : Ivan Saldanha-Shet.

Karnataka public Service Commission (KPSC) is a statutory body to examine and select Govt Officers for Karnataka. Every year KPSC recruits thousands of candidates for various posts – District Officials, Police officials, Medical personnel, Forest officials, lecturers, teachers, headmasters, principals, horticulture officers, wardens, supervisors, ... the list is long with many lucrative positions in the Karnataka Govt. and in other states.

If a person is selected as a government officer, he can serve for the next 30 to 35 years and get promotions and salary raises and high job security. It is a very desired work situation with many perks and advantages which is a boon to family/dependants too. You will realize the power and satisfaction levels of an officer only with experiencing it. Officers power used in the right direction, a better government and society, will result.

Consider what a Member of the Karnataka Public Service Commission states :

Several exams to recruit all types of posts are conducted – right from a clerk to Deputy Commissioners, Doctors among others. Take for example, the Gazetted Probationers (GP) exam or popularly known as KAS exams. About four lakh candidates applied for this exam, over two lakh candidates wrote the preliminary exam, 8,000 candidates were selected for the Main Exam and 2,123 were called for an interview. Finally, 428 candidates were selected for various posts such as Assistant Commissioners, Deputy Superintendent Police, Tahsildars, Commercial Tax Officers, Taluk Executive Officers, Labour Officers, Co-operative Officers and Employment Officers, among others. Out of the 2,123 candidates who appeared for the interview, only seven were from coastal regions, that is, Dakshina Kannada and Udupi and among them only one has been selected from Udupi...the coastal region has vast talent but no initiative.

He went on to add, hardly anyone from the coastal region seems to take an interest in making a bright, secure and profitable career. There may be several reasons... There was a time during the IT boom, and they were pay-



Karnataka Public Service Commission
kpsc.kar.nic.in



ing thrice or four times the salary one would get in other fields... There was also a time when everyone thought of flying to West Asia or other countries... but not anymore. On the contrary, very few people aspire for government jobs, but complain of unemployment, when there are many vacancies, good governance which is a very urgent requirement for common citizens today.

About KPSC exams or any competitive exams, it should be noted here that NOT all clear competitive exams in their first attempt, even in UPSC. One of the main drawbacks of students from coastal regions is that they try only once or twice at the most and then give up. In this case, the students from North Karnataka should be our role models, most of them try at least half a dozen times and continue to try till they pass or cross the age bar. In the case of coastal candidates, if they fail twice, parents or elders or senior peers discourage them and they easily give up. Just look at the IAS / IPS or other top officials serving in the coastal districts and you find very few officials. There is absolutely no hurdle to work in a pri-

The disciples said to Jesus, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." But Jesus said, "They need not go away;

You Give Them Something To Eat.

The Fury of rain in Konkan has taken the toll of more than 300 people! Entire houses are washed away and filled with murk! Some children were snatched away from their parents' bosoms suddenly. Most of the deaths in Raigad, along with the Satara and Ratnagiri districts were caused by landslides. Floods wreaked havoc in Kolhapur and Sangli. Heavy rains in the Sahyadri range led to swelling of rivers flowing through Satara, Sangli and Kolhapur districts, forcing the evacuation of people. The Sangli district in Western Maharashtra did not receive heavy rainfall, but discharge of water from the Koyna dam led to flooding in Sangli city and in several villages. According to the disaster management department, there are 349 relief camps set up for evacuated people in Kolhapur, Sangli, Satara, Ratnagiri and Raigad. Nothing is enough!

In Raigad's Mahad town, water had risen up to 25 feet at some places, a level not seen in recent memory, submerging several ground plus first floor structures, news agency PTI reported. As per a release from the office of Raigad collector Nidhi Chaudhary, 103 villages now face the risk of landslides in the district. Heavy rainfall in Mahabaleshwar (530mm), a hill station in Satara district, and also in Mahad (383mm) and Poladpur town (575) led to the destructive floods in the Konkan region's Raigad district.

How Would Jesus React To The Floods?

Herod killed John the Baptist and presented his head on a platter to the daughter of Herodias. When Jesus got the news he was naturally disturbed (Mt14.13-14). He went to a lonely place. John was his cousin,

his Guru and forerunner and besides according to his own witness, the greatest prophet 'born of a woman'! In that lonely place Jesus must have had thoughts of revolt against Herod. He may have thought of going and demanding an answer from Herod in John's style, "It was not lawful for you to kill John" But just then a multitude of people gathered around him in search of him. He looked at that crowd and was moved with compassion. He began to bring immediate relief by healing and consoling them.

We see here Jesus had two reactions; one as an activist demanding justice for John the Baptist, the second reaction was one of compassion. He felt them as 'sheep without a shepherd'. He immediately got busy with relief activity and kept the cause of justice aside. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds

away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." He feeds more than five thousand people. His compassion flows incessantly.

The problem of hunger has continued ever since the creation of humanity. "The poor are always with you." And in an hour of need God is there showing his compassion. God is not tired of showing his mercy and compassion. He does not work miracles but each time God tells his people, "You give them something to eat." He moves people like Moses to have compassion on the unfortunate people ((Numbers 11. 4-15)

So in fact it is man's frenzy, man's

atrocities on nature inviting nature's fury. Even in such conditions God still has compassion over man. There is a constant repetition of the man's selfish exploitation and God's healing touch. God seems to say that as long as humankind exists and they selfishly destroy nature, I shall continue showing my mercy to my people. But he does not repeat the miracle of the multiplication of loaves. Rather God seems to tell mankind, "You give them something to eat! Even if there are just five loaves and two fish, you bring them to me. I shall bless them and they will be more than enough for all!" We see that today happening in Konkan. God is moving people to compassion. Help is rushing to Mahad and Chiplun. Many people and groups are rushing with loads of provisions specially to Chiplun which is worst hit by the floods. The Archdiocese of Mumbai has already delivered 46 tonnes of relief material to Mahad. The 'Kilbil' group from Vasai made a trip to Mahad. The youth was very happy to meet Bishop Barthol Barretto of Mumbai already there, a shepherd with his sheep devastated! Another youth group 'Nirbhay Janamanch' from Vasai has left for Chiplun with relief material. These are the people who are moved to compassion by the compassionate Lord. Maybe, we are tired of showing compassion in calamity after calamity. Corona waves do not seem to be over and now floods! Divine mercy has to continue through us.

Konkan Was To Become California!

Mere compassion is enough. In the spirit of Fr. Stan Swami we must demand justice for the people of Konkan. Why floods at such a degree? The whole mountain, Sahyadri is Angry With Marathi Manus, as a Marathi writer put it! Because Marathi Manus has done atrocities to it. They have



Fr. Michael G. Vasai

(Contd.. on p. 13)

Bill Gates : "So, how's heaven, Steve ?"

Steve Jobs : "Great ! It just doesn't have any wall or fence."

Bill Gates : "So...?"

Steve Jobs : "So, we don't need any Windows and Gates. I'm sorry. Bill, I didn't mean to offend you."

Bill Gates : "It's ok Steve but I heard a rumour!"

Steve Jobs : "Oh, what rumour?"

Bill Gates : "That nobody is allowed to touch Apple there and there are no Jobs in heaven!"

Steve Jobs : "Oh, no, definitely there are but only no-pay Jobs, therefore no Bill in heaven."

A guy looked at my Corvette the other day and said,

"I wonder how many people could have been fed for the money that sports car cost?"

I replied I'm not sure;
it fed a lot of families in Bowling Green, Kentucky who built it,
it fed the people who make the tires,
it fed the people who made the components that went into it,
it fed the people in the copper mine who mined the copper for the wires,
it fed people in at Caterpillar who make the trucks that haul the copper ore.

It fed the trucking people who hauled it from the plant to the dealer and fed the people working at the dealership and their families.

BUT,... I have to admit, I guess I really don't know how many people it fed. That is the difference between capitalism and the welfare mentality. When you buy something, you put money in people's pockets and give them dignity for their skills. When you give someone something for nothing, you rob them of their dignity and self-worth.

Capitalism is freely giving your money in exchange for something of value.

Socialism is having the government take your money against your will



and give it to someone else for doing nothing.

I think this is well written and well thought out

I told my doctor that I broke my arm in two places. He told me to stop going to those places.

A man was coming out of a new barber shop which he decided to try out. He met his friend and his friend asked him if the barber did a good job. He replied " the haircut looks fine but I didn't like the four-letter words he used when cutting my hair." "What did he say?" his friend asked? "Oops!" the man replied.

As I am getting older I seem to be loosing my hair. When I went last week to the barber I joked with him that he keeps on going up in price when I have less to cut! He replied, "I should charge you double for all the time it takes me to find your hair!"

Customer: "How mach for haircut?"

Barber: "20 Rupees."

Cutomer: "How much for a Shave?"

Barber: "Ten rupees."

Cutomer: "Great-shave my head, please!"

Barber: "How old are you little man?"

Rohit: "Eight."

Barber: Do you want a haircut?"

Rohit: "well, I certainly didnt came in for a shave!"

Sign at a barber's saloon in Juhu, Bombay: We need your heads to run our business.

Bank manager asks Santa in an interview: "What is cyclone"

Santa: "It is the loan given to purchase a cycle"

Interviewer: What is a skeleton?

Santa: Sir, skeleton is a person who started dieting, but forgot to stop it!!

Friendship and Love

Sip your Tea
Nice and Slow
No one Ever knows
when it's Time to Go,
There'll be no Time
to enjoy the Glow,
So sip your Tea
Nice and Slow.

Life is too Short but
feels pretty Long,
There's too Much to do, so much going Wrong,
And Most of the Time You Struggle to be Strong,
Before it's too Late
and it's time to Go,
Sip your Tea
Nice and Slow.

Some Friends stay,
others Go away,
Loved ones are Cherished but not all will Stay.
Kids will Grow up
and Fly away.
There's really no Saying how Things will Go,
So sip your Tea
Nice and Slow.

In the End it's really
all about understanding Love
For this World
and in the Stars above,
Appreciate and Value who truly Cares,
Smile and Breathe
and let your Worries go,
So Just Sip your Tea
Nice and Slow."

A poem by Prof Lee Tzu Pheng on human friendship, n loving one another

(Contd.. from p. 11)

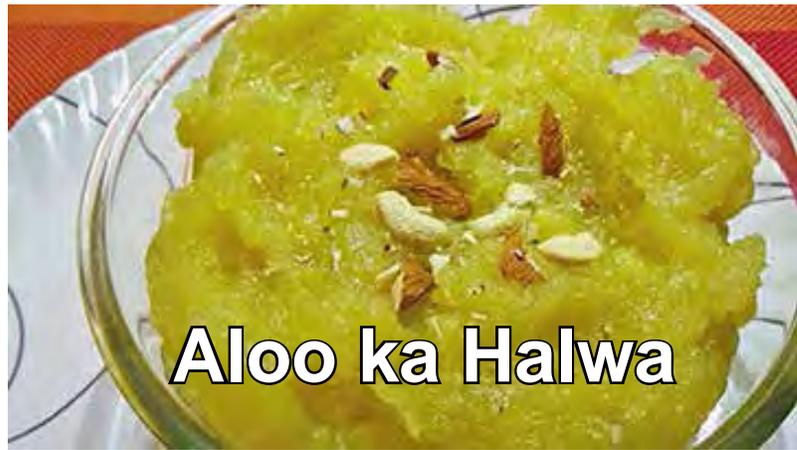
dug tunnels, made him bare open by destroying jungles, changed river directions and polluted them, done away with water holding points and built towers! That's why the *Sahyadri* is furious! *Sahyadri* in Shrivastava's time helped win *swarajya* today he is drowning him!

Konkan is rich in natural resources of water, jungles and minerals. It has plenty of food to eat so no one would go hungry. But today the youth of Konkan has left their *mybhoomi* and gone to the cities like Nashik, Mumbai and even to many other cities worldwide in search of food. Is it food alone or in search of luxury? As a result Konkan is orphaned and now devastated! What happened to the political talk of making Konkan a California? Today instead of California it has turned into a big mucky pond! There have been three chief ministers from Konkcan: Barrister A. R. Antulay, Shri Manohar Joshi and Narayan Rane. How have they helped Konkan to develop resorts, industries and mines? Konkan is both *sagari* and *dongri*. If industries had to develop with proper planning -using raw material of fruits, fish and other natural resources- there could have been labour in abundance. There was no need for the youth to migrate and live animal life in the slums of cities.

Let us not only wish but help in whatever way we can that once again Konkan revives and develops -not into California but- in its own real Konkani nature.

**JAI HIND! JAI MAHARATSTRA!!
JAI KONKAN!!!**

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Aloo ka Halwa

Ingredients:

6 medium-sized potatoes, boiled, peeled and grated.
1/2 cup ghee
1 cup milk
1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
1 tsp green cardamom powder
1/2 cup mixed chopped nuts

Method:

Heat ghee in a heavy bottomed pan. Add grated potatoes and sauté well. The more you sauté, the better the halwa tastes. Stir continuously as the potatoes tends to stick to the bottom a little. Add milk and powdered sugar and mix well. Cook till the sugar dissolves completely and the halwa starts leaving the ghee. Add green cardamom powder and nuts and mix well. Serve warm.



by Jubel D'Cruz

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Frenzied Consumption

“Learn from the way the wild flowers grow. They do not work or spin. But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was clothed like one of them.” Mathew:6:24

Truly we are so obsessed in looking good, in keeping up appearances, that we make our lives complicated with constant striving to acquire more. I recall the words of a song, “Life was simple then. It will never come again....” Our lives are becoming increasingly more complicated and stressful and we have ourselves to blame for we are getting addicted to material goods. “Earth provides enough to satisfy every man’s needs, but not every man’s greed” said Mahatma Gandhi. These words come to mind as we are faced with severe climatic changes due to global warming brought on by our obsession with more.

The Industrial Revolution in Europe (1760-1840), which spread throughout the world with colonialism, was the first of seismic changes which shook the very foundations of society. With technology came economic progress which was good but also a population shift from rural to urban areas. The divide between the rich and the poor widened. Cities became the breeding ground of disease and crime. The entire social fabric of cooperation was jettisoned and replaced by the abrasive fabric of fierce competition. Ambition coupled with individualism is loosening the hold of restraining factors such as the family, and a value system based on the common good. We are obsessed with achievement at the cost of the well being of others.

Today, with continuous technological changes bringing about mass production of goods and the spread of communication, our lives have benefitted but these changes have also brought

social, economic, spiritual and ecological upheavals in their wake which are to our detriment.

The thinking now is, “I am not satisfied with what I have. I want more” – a better mobile phone, a faster computer, more clothes, designer shoes and bags, expensive holidays. The list is endless. As our increasing desires are fulfilled, our expectations likewise increase. Advertisements and the media are fooling us into believing that our desires are our needs. We are victims of fads. Easy loans which make easy money for lending institutions give us a feeling that we can live beyond our means provided our greed for consumer goods is satisfied immediately. We temporarily forget the stress we have to go through to repay our debt in monthly installments.



by **Monica Fernandes**

One such example is that of parents who have less time for their children because they are busy making money to buy a bigger house and a bigger car which they have been brainwashed

into believing are needed for their survival. The pervasive culture of MORE translates into our gnawing into and destroying the very roots of our existence – our trees, our reserves of oil, our clean rivers and seas, our earth.

We have been sold the illusion that we can consume without restraint. But that is not really so. Earth’s resources, which have taken centuries to accumulate, are not infinite. Secondly, they are not ours to deplete for they have been provided by a great and munificent God and we are trustees of His bounty for future generations. They are there for us to enjoy and use – not misuse.

Alas! We are too quick to blame others for the current state of affairs. Let us look into our own lives and see where we are going wrong and how we can remedy the situation. I judged a friend

who daily uses her washing machine for even a few clothes, thereby using electricity which in turn affects the environment. And then I realized that her clothes were mainly made of natural fibers such as cotton, linen and silk whereas I do have a lot of clothes made of artificial fiber. I could improve my consumption patterns in respect of my future buying of garments.

I once went for a workshop on the environment and discovered that there are many ways in which we could each do our bit. One family rarely uses their bath tub as it entails water wastage.

There is this rich young mother who happily mouths the usual jargon about doing her bit for the environment. Yet she goes around in a huge SUV, has a designer wardrobe and lives in a huge five bedroom house which is air conditioned twenty four hours a day. She feels that these luxuries are her entitlement.

It is very easy to talk but what are we actually doing to be good trustees of shrinking resources?

Do we really require such a huge wardrobe? Perhaps we could distribute to others who are in need. Are we recycling? Are we planting more trees or having potted plants in our balconies? Do we really need to subscribe to getting hard copies of newspapers and magazines when we could subscribe to getting them on line? What it boils down to is ‘Do I believe that I am the center of my universe or do I remember that I belong to a society?’

Is it wrong to be rich and enjoy our money? Not at all if one has acquired one’s riches through honest work or investments or inherited our money. However, as we belong to a society, we should use some of our wealth for the common good. We also should ensure that we do not indulge in wasteful expenditure that will adversely impact the environment or others. For instance, when Salman Khan allegedly shot two black bucks in 1998 in a village near Jodhpur, he was booked under the Wildlife Protec-

(Contd.. on p. 15)

Pro-Life Is A Better Choice

CELEBRATING 42 Years of Spiritual Guardianship

The abortion debate goes on, not only in the UK, the USA, but also in other countries across the world. The lives of unborn children are under threat. The pressure keeps mounting. Respect for human life must be our priority always.

The Ambassadors For Jesus is a (lay Catholic Movement), over the passage of forty years they have organized several projects on the theme of Pro-Life. We had met the late Mother Teresa in Calcutta, and spoke to her of the AFJ Prayer effort in our work for anti-abortion. Mother Teresa gave us her blessings. That was the time when the Missionaries of Charity were circulating their 'Safe cycle plan' in the Planned Parenthood mission.

Our hope is that in some distant future this Pro-Life dream will galvanize the Catholic Church and God's people,

(Contd.. from p. 14)

tion Act and later released on bail.

Revolutions such as the French revolution which resulted in so much bloodshed are a result of chasms between the rich and the poor. The wealthy went about their merry ways at the expense of the poor. Let us not forget that society, like the human body, is made up of many individuals and when some parts of society prosper while others languish, this causes the gradual breakdown of the society as a whole. Let us shed our complacency and do our bit for a better world today for at this rate, our tomorrows are numbered.

and through one of these 'rescued' children will boost the vision of 'one flock under one Shepherd'.

India's Roman Catholic population accounts for 12 million, or just 1.7% of the country's 1 billion people. As founder and director of the AFJ movement, I had introduced the idea of Spiritual Guardianship through the power of prayer. It was quite simple; a person takes on the effort to be a Spiritual Guardian to an unborn child who will live and will not be aborted. After all, life at the moment of conception is a human being and has the right to live.



BY MELVYN BROWN

Any Christian can be a Spiritual Guardian. There is no age limit. The spiritual revival of a dream comes through a drive unremittently belonging to the individual. It is stated in the Canon Law 1398 that a person who actually procures an abortion, incurs (a penalty automatically) of excommunication.

The Hippocratic Oath which doctors are supposed to abide by has often fallen on deaf ears. The oath states: 'I will not give to a woman an instrument to procure an abortion.'

Abortion is a premeditated crime, an offence against God. It is man's inhumanity upon his own kind.

Arthur Rubenstein, the famous pianist said, I quote his exact words; "My mother did not want a seventh child, so she decided to get rid of me before I was born. Then a marvelous thing happened. My aunt dissuaded her, and so I was permitted to be born. Think of it. It was a miracle.

'Indeed, it was a miracle. None of his mother's children made a mark in the world, and Rubenstein turned out

to be one of the greatest pianists the world has known.

To destroy the life of a helpless child in the womb is unforgivable. To abort a child by forcing a miscarriage is to be ignorant of the value of life.

It is my belief that somewhere in the world the life of a child will be saved because of your constant and determined effort not to break the chain of the Pro-Life prayer for nine months. All you do is say the AFJ Pro-Life Prayer for only a few minutes each day.

At this point I will draw your attention to the AFJ Constitution (introduction) where it is written: "Our journey through life is a pilgrimage of love whereby we stop along the way to accommodate and assist our fellow brethren to unite divisions in the Church and her lay communities, to save an unborn life from destruction; to grasp the vision of seeing a flash of God's glory in the smallest encounter."

Women should understand that the fruit of her womb cries out for the gift of life and has a human right to be her child, offering her the joy of motherhood.

Abortion cannot be justified on the excuse of inconvenience or personal ambitions. A considered option on the grounds of psychological desperation is to agree to give the child after birth for adoption.

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Royal Christian Family MATRIMONIALS - GROOMS

7237. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in July 1990), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M. Eng., MBA., PGDM., working as an Asst. Engg. Manager. Contact email : dannypinto@gmail.com

7236. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in March 1986), Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 67 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Edn MBA. PGDM., MBA from NMIMS, working as a Manager in Bank. Contact email : sallysylviana@yahoo.in

7233. MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in March 1983), Ht. 6' 1", Wt. 83 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. HSC, IHM, IT., working as a Instrument Tech., working offshore (Rigs). Contact email : bragandacruz@rediffmail.com

7232. GOA : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in July 1980), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 65 kgs, Tan Complexion, Edn. Diploma in Automobile Technoogy, Self employed. Contact email : darwindsouza28@gmail.com.

7226. CANADA : Canadian Citizen Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in August 1990), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 59 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., in Environmental Science and in Energy Management postgraduate degrees from the University of Toronto. Working for a reputed company as Energy Management Analyst in Totonto. Contact email : francisper@gmail.com

7185. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1984) Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 72 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com. working for Bank. Contact email : shaun.neo00.outlook.com

7196. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor (Born in March 1981), Ht. 6', Wt. 80 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., HR Pro-

fessional. Contact email : denstun@hotmail.com

7227. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in August 1990), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 73 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Senior HR. Contact email : baptistadarryl@yahoo.in

7207. CHANDIGARH : Anglo Indian Catholic Divorcee, (Born in April 1972), Ht. 6' 1", Wt. 80 kgs, Very Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., MFC, MA English, Teacher by profession. Contact email : vishalsud81@gmail.com

7206. NEW DELHI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor (Born in October 1995), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 43 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. Computer Engineer, working as a Project Manager with Paytm. Contact email : dcosta.ria@gmail.com

7203. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1985), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.E. MBA, working for International Company. Contact email : delphinempinto@gmail.com

7202. MUMBAI : Keralite Syrian Catholic Bachelor (Born in May 1973), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 73 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., English Literature, Profession : Consultant Administration. Left Hand & Leg is weak due to earlier motor bike accident. Contact Email : josephmullakara1973@gmail.com

7188. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor (Hearing Impaired) (Born in September 1989), Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 62 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. HSC., Dip. in Computer Hardware. Working as a Cashier. Contact email : clifford9948@gmail.com OR 9920331773

7220. MUMBAI : Anglo Indian Roman Catholic Divorcee, (Born in May 1978), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 76 kgs, Fair Complexion,

Edn. MBA PGDM, working as a HR. Contact email : rodrigsmargaret69@gmail.com

7225. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in July 1994), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 70 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. INFT, Profession : Database Developer. Contact email : allan.jones.137@gmail.com

7224. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in September 1986), Ht. 6', Wt. 93 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Marine Engineering, working as a 3rd Engineer in Ship. Contact Mob.: 9773541522

7213. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1989), Ht.6', Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc. in Hospitality Studies, working in a reputed organization. Contact email : merwyn-1989pinto@gmail.com

7212. MUMBAI : East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in February 1991), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Bachelor of Arts, B.H.M.S., Luzern, Switzerland, working as a Restaurant Supervisor. Contact email : noellyn_p@hotmail.com

7218. MUMBAI : Goan RC Bachelor, (Born in November 1988), Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 68 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., Aviation, working as a Commercial Pilot. 1st Officer. Contact email : dcostajess@gmail.com

7216. MUMBAI : Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1988), Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA, HR speacialization, Profession : Lead Recruiter. Contact email : willujames310@gmail.com

7183. MUMBAI : East Indian RC Bachelor, (Born in February 1991) Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 86 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. PGDM and BMS., working as a Relationship Manager. Contact email : ritadhawan10@gmail.com

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7238. AHMEDABAD : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1989), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 50 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as a Sr. Recruitment Consultant. Contact email :

fernandeseugenia58@gmail.com

7234. MANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1993), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBBS, MD (ongoing), Doctor by profession. Contact email :

samaddy2013@gmail.com

7214. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1986), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 52 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. CA CFA Ms Finance M.Com., working as a Senior Manager. Contact email :

frfernandes020@gmail.com

7199. BANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1990), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 53 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. Master's in Mass Communications (NTU, Singapore) working as a Senior Manager of Corporate Communications in **SINGAPORE**. Contact email :

mafern.2121@gmail.com

7128. MUMBAI : Affluent business family R.C. East Indian Spinster, (Born in 12-04-1988), Ht. 5' 2", very beautiful and pretty. Edn. MS General Surgeon, Doctor by profession. Contact email :

drvd2019@gmail.com

7182. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1992), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 72 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., C.A., working as Asst. Manager in TATA Company. Contact : email :

matrimonialp27@gmail.com

7228. KOLKATA : Anglo Indian Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1988), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 54 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Good looking, Smart, Edn. B.A., working as a HR.

Contact email :

advtresponse85@gmail.com

7160. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1988), Ht. 5' 7", Fair Complexion, Edn. BMS, working as a Senior Merchandiser in a Global Retail Company in Dubai. Contact email :

prislobo10@gmail.com

7229. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in May 1994), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 55 kgs, Fair Complexion, Good looking, Smart, Edn. MBA PGDM, working as a HR Marketing and Customer Service in **UAE**. Contact email :

goanmatri7@gmail.com

7126. U.S.A. : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1992) from Mumbai, Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E. (Computers) from Mumbai, M.S. (Information Systems) from US. Possesses H1B visa and is working as a Technical Analyst with an MNC in USA. Contact email :

wilfyjoy1315@gmail.com or call +91 98603 02527 / + 91 9970172527

7223. MUMBAI : Born Again Spinster, (Born in November 1994), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 70 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. Masters in HR. working as Asst. Manager Learning and Development in Cargo Logistics firm. Seeks suitable match, first preference Born Again or Others. Contact email :

bernie_wicket@yahoo.com

7222. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1984), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working as accountant. Contact email :

josephppereira@gmail.com

7210. AURANGABAD : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in January 1994), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 50 kgs, Fair Complexion, good looking, beautiful, Coming from business family, Edn. Chartered Accountant, C.A. by Profession. Contact email :

putturaurangabad@gmail.com

7204. MUMBAI : Goan Roman Catholic Spinster (Born in October 1989), Ht. 4' 11", Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduate, PGD in Broadcast Journalism, working for National News Channel in **BANGALORE**. Contact email :

stacypereira89@gmail.com

7191. BANGALORE : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1991), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 57 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.S (Electrical Engineering in US), M.S in Robotics Engineering, working as a Software for a reputed Company in **New York**. Contact email :

alfnan@yahoo.com

7148 MUMBAI : Smart, goodlooking, Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1993), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 40 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. H.S.C., having own business. Contact email :

teresa.joseph.1993@gmail.com

7181. MUMBAI : Mangalorean Roman Catholic Divorcee, issueless (Born in April 1974), Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com., working as a H.R. Contact email :

roopaferns@yahoo.co.in

7093. MUMBAI : Gujarati Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in July 1982), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working for Private Bank. Contact email :

annie.waghela@gmail.com

7082. MUMBAI : Tamilian Roman catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1985), Ht. 5', Wt. 50 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. 12th std., working as a sales girl in Big Store. Contact email :

susanmoses1385@gmail.com

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The Olympics With Christian Perspectives!

—Dr. Trevor Colaso,
Memphis, TN. USA.

The 'Ancient Olympics' was held in Greece around 776 BC. The connection with the Greeks is indeed profound! They represent the Gentiles! "Now among those who went to worship at the Passover were some Greeks who went to Philip and asked him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus!' // I am not ashamed of the Gospel, For it is the power of God for everyone who believes; to the Jew first, and also to the Greeks ... For there will be glory, honor and peace for all who do good; to the Jew first, and also to the Greeks. For God shows no partiality!" (Jn 12:20-21 // Rom 1:16; 2:10-11).

- Olympic Flame, Torch and Symbol!
- Months before each Games, the 'Olympic Flame' is lit at the Temple of Hera in Olympia, Greece. 'Doves of Peace' with 'Olives Branches and Leaves' in their beaks are released by eleven vestal virgins! The Dove symbolizes the 'Holy Spirit' of Truth! And the 'olive leaf' is a sign of future harmony and fertility.!
- The Flame represents the 'Fire' that Prometheus stole from the chief God Zeus, and gifted it to humanity to grow towards civilization! The Flame carried by an 'Olympic Torch Relay' has a Theme, which for the TOKYO 2020 (now 2021) is, "HAPPY & PEACE"! - Happy or Blessed reminds one of the Beatitudes! // My peace I leave and give to you. So let not your hearts be troubled or afraid (Mt 5:3-12 // Jn14:27).
- The 'Olympic Symbol' consists of '5 Rings' denoting the '5 Continents' against a 'White' background; which are all incorporated in the 'Olympic Flag' - a symbol of unity and harmony among nations - 'Olympism'! - "For there is neither Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female; for all are one in Christ Jesus!" (Gal 3:28).
- Olympic Day!
- It commemorates the founding of

the IOC - International Olympic Committee on 23 June 1894 at Sorbonne, Paris, when Pierre de Coubertin revived the modern Summer Olympics. June is also the 'Olympic's Day Month'! - Based on '3-Pillars' of "Move, Learn and Discover"!

- Move: Seek first God's kingdom and His righteousness. // Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, becomes a new creation. // For I have not obtained this, neither am I perfect; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus made me His Own! (Mt 6:33//2 Cor. 5:17//Phil 3:12).
- Learn: Beware lest anyone spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the traditions of humans and the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ! // So do your best to present yourself to God as one approved - a worker who has no need to be ashamed, by rightly handling the Word of Truth! (Col 2:8;//2 Tim 2:15).
- Discover: Enter by the narrow gate! For the gate is wide and the way easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. But the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few. // So make a search for God, in order to obtain the knowledge of Him, though He is not far. (Mt 7:13-14 // Act 17:27).
- Olympic Motto!
- Since 1894 the 'Olympic Motto' is "Faster, Higher, Stronger" or in Latin, "Citius, Altius, Fortis"! The IOC recently added the word, "Together or Communis"!
- Faster-Citius: Do you not know that in the race all run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Besides, every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wealth, but we for an imperishable one. // Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us discard everything that hinders,

and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance (1 Cor 9:24-25 // Heb 12:1).

- Higher-Altius: When you are invited, go and recline at the last place; so that when the host comes, may say to you, 'Friend, move up 'higher'! For then you will have honor in the sight of all. // The kind of life, I (Paul) have lived since my youth 'upward' as exemplified during my early days, is known to all nations and Jews. // So I press on towards the goal for the prize of the 'upward' call of God in Christ Jesus! (Lk 14:10; Act 26:4 ; Phil 3:14).
- Stronger-Fortis: Be on constant alert; stand firm in faith, by acting like 'strong' persons. // For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power, love and discipline. // So be 'strong' in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the armor of God to stand against the schemes of the devil. (1 Cor 6:13 // 2 Tim 1:7 // Eph 6:10-11).
- Together-Communis: Let us consider how we may spur one another towards love and good deeds, by not giving up meeting 'together'. // And over all these virtues, put on love which binds everything 'together' in perfect unity. // So daily they met 'together' in the Temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate 'together' with glad, sincere and contrite hearts, praising God, and enjoying the favor of the people. // For in Christ the whole body is joined 'together' by every supporting ligament, wherein it grows and builds itself up in love! (Heb 10:24-25 // Col 3:14 // Act 2:46-47 // Eph 4:16).
- Final Exhortation For All!
- I have fought the good fight! I have finished the race! I have kept the faith! Henceforth, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Righteous Judge will award to me, but also to all those who have longed for His appearance! (2 Tim 4:7-8).

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Thanksgiving



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—Janet, Mangalore

Thanksgiving

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Ask St. Clare for three favours two impossible and say nine Hail Mary's and the above prayer for 9 days with a lighted candle and publish on the 9th day your request will be granted no matter how impossible it is

—Roland D'Souza, Dubai



Thanksgiving



Thanks to **Mother Teresa for the favours granted. Praying for more favours.**

—Stella & Joseph, Andheri

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I call forth the Power and the presence of **St. Expedite** in my time of financial trouble. I offer my body, heart, mind and soul upon your altar of light. I have faith and trust and complete confidence that you will be my strength in this time of need. Quickly come to my assistance.

(State Your Petition) _____

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abundance and in the Praise of God.
Amen.

(Promise Publication)

—Ms Rose, Goa

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 MU231795 - Age 42, Edn. MBA, PG., MS
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 MU222121 - Age 32, Edn. M.Phil., Neu.Sc.
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 MU112936 - Age 30. Edn. ME., M.Tech., MS

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 FU311427 - Age 35, Edn. MBA., PG., BE.
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