

# THE SECULAR CITIZEN

Vol.30 Issue No.36 ■ (Total Pages 20) ■ Mumbai, 6 - 12 September, 2021 ■ Rs. 10

A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY

## Freedom For All Is Still A Distant Dream

By PACHU MENON

As the nation celebrated its 75th Independence Day on 15th August 2021, we are reminded of the sacrifices of the valiant heroes, both sung and unsung, who stood against the might of the British Empire and gained us freedom.

The nation has come a long way since then. India's march towards progress and development has been remarkable. But has the country risen to its full potential as yet! Crippling setbacks have often foiled the nation's ambitious plans.

Our hearts swell with pride at the mere mention of Indians excelling in various fields across the globe. But we tend to forget that as foreign nationals they bring laurels to their adopted countries and not India.

'Brain drain' has cost India dear and continues to be a serious cause of concern for the country.

Migrating to the West in search of better jobs, lucrative salaries and higher standards of living, the incessant exodus of scholars and professionals in various fields has definitely had a retarding effect on the growth of the nation.

If it is the search for better career prospects that is taking our youth to foreign shores, it would imply that despite the best of education, the country has failed miserably in providing better employment opportunities to the youngsters.

Or is it our 'percentage-oriented' education pattern that is taking its toll on the students who are tutored from day one only to vie for high marks without gaining a comprehensive knowledge of the subjects they are taught.

But this system of learning has had an adverse effect with the skyrocketing cut-offs for admissions in top Indian universities depriving many the chance to study in some of the prestigious educational institutions of the country.

This then has urged many to explore the scope of higher education abroad and secure a place in good universities. Considering the global exposure and access to high quality life and facilities, there

is a marked reluctance exhibited by the students to return home.

Possibly the implementation of the New Education Policy (NEP) in our education system will change all that!

These days there is a palpable sense of pride in the country!

Ever since the advent of the social media in the late 2000s, other than the usual gossips and sensational stuff, we have also been privy to posts that touched us emotionally and raised the spirit and essence of nationalism in us.

The bravery of our soldiers was one such subject that brought out the 'Indian' within us.

The life of our jawans who are defending the world's highest battlefield to save their motherland has been awe-inspiring and their stint at the unforgiving Siachen Glacier has earned them the respect of a nation.

At the forefront of all emergencies and calamities, natural or otherwise, the Indian armed forces have ably supported the civil administration in restoring normalcy.

Their heroics have made our troops the toast of the nation. The country can just not stop eulogizing its military personnel.

But how many of us have seriously thought of enlisting in the defence forces and serving the nation!

At a time when the nation is experiencing the trauma of hostilities at all its borders, not to speak of the insurgency within its territories, shouldn't the younger generation be more enthusiastic about strengthening the armed forces and increasing our military might!

However, a career in the armed forces is not all that attractive for youngsters who, armed with their MBAs, prefer the fat pay cheques and perks that come with an employment in reputed business establishments and other conglomerates.

India today rejoices in the glory of the seven medals it won at the Tokyo Olympics. And why not, it was a stupendous achievement! But when will we get

(Contd.. on p. 3)

## A Game Changer for India?

The Olympic Games held in Japan – the Land of the Rising Sun was indeed a game changer for Indian sports. Not only the glory of Indian Hockey revived, it also saw a resurgent team display exemplary hunger for excellence and commitment in a true team spirit. It also ended up with a medal after decades of disappointments and heartbreaks. With repeated failures, the game which galvanized the nation once upon a time lost its flavor among the Indian people. Not only that, the women hockey team almost got another medal for the country. Though they did not win a medal, surely they won the hearts of millions of their countrymen. With these twin achievements, Indian hockey has certainly taken this sport to a new high. With just three years to go, the teams will have to set their eyes on their 'goals' in 2023.

Apart from hockey the Indian contingent gave a good account of themselves. All the athletes gave their best. While some succeeded and won medals including gold, others despite their efforts could not make the mark. They would have come back wiser with the experience they gained in Tokyo. Undoubtedly, Niraj Chopra from Haryana did India proud with the first gold in the field of athletics. He rightly deserved the adulation that is being so generously showered on him. The Prime Minister did well to interact with the Indian contingent before their departure and thereafter on regular basis during the games. While he congratulated the winners, he also spoke to the losers and encouraged them to do better in future. The President of India and the PM felicitated the winners which must have gladdened their hearts. Of course the State governments also did their bit and declared handsome financial packages for the winners.

Now that the dust has settled down on the euphoria it is time to sit down and chalk out a strategy to prepare the aspirants for the next Olympic Games in Paris in about three years. The time is short and whatever needs to be done has to be on a war footing. There were some shortcom-

## VIEWS on NEWS

ings in Tokyo which need special attention. Odisha has taken the lead by declaring that they will build some 80 indoor stadia to enable the hopefuls to prepare right away. Other states also need to set up such facilities. Hostels also should be built with modern facilities so that the players get the best to enable them to concentrate on their respective disciplines. Actually, Government of India should have taken the lead and draw a road map on how best to get the infrastructure ready which should match international standards.

As one sports commentator said, India should concentrate on those sports which offer 'multiple' medals such as swimming, shooting, running etc. where the chances of getting medals are more. The point that he made was, in team events say like football, you train at least 20 to 25 players while the medals are only three. In swimming there may be dozens of medals at stake. There is merit in this line of reasoning. If 20 or 25 swimmers are trained in different disciplines the chances of getting medals are more. The authorities and the federations should think on these lines and plan their roadmap. With the success of the 2020 Olympic contingent, there is added interest among the youth of the country and that needs to be taken forward. With facilities within reasonable distance more and more sportspersons will be encouraged to give it a try. Transport facilities also [from home to the sports venues] must be addressed. The female weight lifter said she had to rely on the truck drivers to give her a lift day in and day out. Not all sportspersons will undergo such hardships. Even reasonable care has to be taken at the Olympics village. Aditi who was competing in the Golf discipline had to get up at 3.00 a.m. to reach the venue after traveling for an hour and a half. She missed a medal by a whisker. A shooter's gun failed to operate at a very crucial moment. Who is to be blamed for this?

*A new beginning needs to be made in sports administration of this country.*



*by Marshall Sequeira*

The administrators need to take care of interest of the sportspersons. Over the years the sportspersons have receiving a raw deal. Food and nutrition are two important factors apart from world class equipments and grounds. If these are found to be substandard the people of this country will not forgive those in charge. The PM needs to give a pep talk to the aspirants and the administrators once in a while and the high profile sports minister needs to keep regular interaction with all the stakeholders. In the past the Indian public hardly bothered about the Olympic performance but this time the expectations were high and therefore the performance of each participant was closely watched with bated breath. Finally, the name of Khel Ratna was abruptly changed to honour Major Dhyan Chand the hockey legend. While all Indians respect and honour him, his contribution was restricted to just one discipline – hockey. So long as there was no politics, it is fine but the general perception is quite different. The PM should make a policy decision not to name any sport or any other award after any politician more so if he is living. To prove that there was no politics in Khel Ratna, ideally he should also have renamed Gujarat Cricket stadium after one of the past Cricket legends.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Gubernatorial prerogative

The MVA government of Maharashtra had sent a list of twelve names to be nominated to the Legislative Council in the State of Maharashtra some ten months back. As per the normal practice the names recommended by the cabinet have to be approved by the Governor of the

(Contd.. on p. 5)

# THE SECULAR CITIZEN

A NATIONAL FAMILY WEEKLY

Vol.30 Issue No.36 Sept. 6-12, 2021 Rs.10/-

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

Mobile: +91 9820485389 / 9820473103

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

Website: www.sezariworld.com

Editor: LAWRENCE COELHO

## Subscriptions Rate:

One year (anywhere in India) Rs. 500

Two years (anywhere in India) Rs.1000

Five years (anywhere in India) Rs. 2000

One year (outside India) Rs. 3500

## E-paper Edition

sent anywhere in the world (by email)

One year

Rs. 600 or US \$ 15

## Advertisement. Tariff

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Small Size Ads B/W

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

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

6 x 6cms Rs. 700

## Matrimonial Classifieds:

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

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

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

Our bank account details for Fund Transfer : Account Name: The Secular Citizen, Current Account No. 0355200006744, Bank: HDFC Bank, Branch : CST - Mumbai VT, ISFC code: HDFC0000355

(Contd.. from p. 1)

over our mentality of settling for the second or third-best when aiming for nothing less than a top-spot should have been the objective!

For a nation of 1.39 billion, it is not the spotting of potential talents that has been the impeding factor but the lack of sporting infrastructure and facilities which have denied it excellence in the global arena of sports.

Neeraj Chopra's Gold in Javelin throw at Tokyo is no doubt a shot in the arm for Indian sports, but it will require a sustained effort by the administration to produce more of his kind.

Gender-bias is very much rampant in the society even today despite efforts to do away with the malaise.

The mindset problem when it comes to equal service opportunities for men and women has been that dissuading factor which has time and again come to the fore epitomizing the hesitation shown by the more dominant male-society in accepting women as equals.

For that matter, how safe are our women in our country! In spite of the most stringent of laws against rapes and other heinous crimes, atrocities

against women continue to shock the nation.

Acclaimed as the world's fastest growing economy, the saga of economic development in India has not been all that encouraging considering the remarkable contributions from a broad variety of sectors, industries and companies.

The alleviation of poverty, for instance, has been the most challenging task for successive governments.

The Indian flag is the symbol of the country's freedom, the hopes and aspirations of its people. Ironically though, the tricolour seems to assume all the more significance for impoverished women and children selling them on streets

and at traffic signals on Independence Day or Republic Day, year after year. Apparently their daily sustenance, at least on these days, is dependent on the patriotic fervour that they are able to raise in the people through the national flags and mementos they sell them!

Even after 74 years of the so-called freedom that we are enjoying, would it be wrong to say that India is still grappling with issues and challenges which were ominously present even in the pre-independence era!

Besides the issues of poverty and unemployment, the COVID-pandemic has sufficiently highlighted the nation's unpreparedness to handle catastrophes of this nature. The challenges confronting the healthcare system in the country need to be dealt with in a timely manner and efficiently.

Considering that discrimination on the basis of religion, caste and ethnic identity continue to be the bane of the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has rightly opined that without removing the poison of social divisions and disharmony, and further strengthening the spirit of oneness and human empowerment, freedom cannot be a reality for all in our country.



by Pachu Menon

## THE SECULAR CITIZEN

News items, Articles, Stories, Opinions, interviews, Poems, etc. may be sent in -

on WhatsApp: +91 9820485389

Via Email:

secular@sezariworld.com

news@sezariworld.com

seculardivo@gmail.com

by Post

**The Secular Citizen**

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

# Teachers, You Are Precious To Us!

**C**ovid 19, or otherwise, whether schools remain closed yet for another year or remain open, all of us, especially the young students who have experienced the loving care and affection of their teachers for years together, will specially think of them on Teachers' Day, celebrated annually on September 5, a day set aside to express our gratitude to teachers for making us what we are today to a great extent. The day provides all of us, whether we are students or parents or have even become teachers today, a unique opportunity to appreciate our teachers and tell them that *they are precious to us, and that we shall never forget them in our lives.*

Our country always held teachers in very high esteem. *Mahabharata* has many classic examples of this. Acharya (the royal teacher) was always considered an integral part of the royal household. His advice was sought before the king took any important decision, and his word often prevailed over others. No one ordinarily questioned his moral authority.

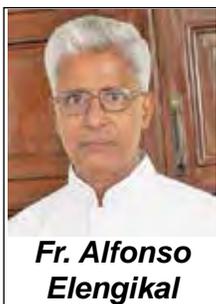
Rabindranath Tagore was affectionately called *Gurudev* by his disciples, and sure Tagore liked it. Even today, in many circles he is referred to as *Gurudev*, and not so much as a great writer, which he was by any standard.

Dr Radhakrishnan, one of the most erudite Presidents our country has had, preferred to be known as a teacher than as the President of the country, and the country today pays him the greatest tribute by celebrating his birthday as the Teachers' Day!

For sure, today we do not have teachers of the calibre of Rabindranath Tagore or Dr Radhakrishnan. Yet, I have no hesitation to say that teaching remains one of the noblest of all professions that I can think of even today. In fact, I would not refer to 'teaching' as a profession, just as I would not refer to 'parenting' as a pro-

fession. For me, teaching is, and will continue to be, the very extension of the mission of parenting!

A few years ago, I was asked to give an orientation programme for the teachers of a nearby school. As I wasn't used to programmes of that nature, I did a lot of homework to do justice to the task. In the course of the preparation, I came across many stories and anecdotes, two of which have specially impressed me, which I am sharing with you.



**Fr. Alfonso Elengikal**

It was the last day of the year for the first graders; and the teacher gave her class a special assignment — she knew her little ones were fond of drawing and so she asked them to draw a picture of something/someone they are especially grateful. In no time everyone completed their assignment — one subtler than the other.

One drew a picture of a tree, someone else a cow, and still another a tap from which water was flowing. But the teacher and the class was quite puzzled by little Edward's drawing. He had simply drawn a hand!

Most children tried to give their interpretations to Edward's sketch. It must be God's hand that blesses us every day, one said. Another said that it was the farmer's hand that provides us food. Someone else said it must be the hand of the traffic policeman who daily helps them cross the road.

Finally, it was Edward's turn to interpret his drawing. He quietly got up, looked at the teacher intently and said: "Teacher, it is your hand; over the past one year, you have given me much more than anyone else. I'm thankful to you."

I too can say with confidence that this is my story, too, and with young Edward and thousands of others all over the country, I would say: "Teacher/Teachers, it is your hand; you have given me, possibly with the exception of my mother, much more than any-

one else in the world. I am at a loss for words to thank you!"

Here is yet another anecdote from the life of the great sculptor Michelangelo. Michelangelo was once visiting a building site, when he came across a very odd-shaped, rough-edged block of marble.

"What are you doing with this piece of marble?" he asked the builder.

"Nothing," the builder said. "It is useless!"

"No, it's not useless," the great sculptor replied. "Please send it to my studio. *There's an angel imprisoned in this block of marble that I must set free!*"

What Michelangelo said is very true of every committed teacher whose mission and challenge in life is to free the beautiful angel imprisoned in every student who comes to him/her.

I remember once asking a group of teachers as to what they consider teaching to be — a profession or a mission. This is what they told me, or at least the gist of what they told me: *"Teaching is primarily a mission and a commitment! Moulding the mind of a child is a noble mission. We deal with human beings, and no two individuals are the same. We have to handle each of our students with the utmost care. Fragile, handle with care is the norm here. A teacher should be able to discipline his/her student with love and understanding, always helping the student to discover the hidden talents within, and develop them."*

Beautiful words befitting millions of our teachers, all over the world, who are engaged in the noble mission of setting free the imprisoned angel in every student of theirs. Keep it up, dear teachers; the nation and all of us are really proud of you!

*Fr Alfonso Elengikal of the Society of St Paul is the Chief Editor of the national Youth Magazine The Teenager Today. He is the author of four bestselling books: You Can Make a Difference, You Are Destined for the Skies, Let the Real You Stand Up and Discover the Hero within You.*



## AFGHANISTAN ABANDONED!

The situation in Afghanistan is really scary and the future seems dark. America is withdrawing from Afghanistan after 20 odd years. The question is, what did they achieve? Did they hope to end terrorism in the world? What has changed in Afghanistan during this period? Little did they understand that all this while, the Taliban had been regrouping themselves and now when the opportunity arose, they grasped the moment.

The Western world seems to have abandoned Afghanistan. The withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan has thrown up new war games with the dominance from the East. The meeting between China & the Taliban in Afghanistan some time back, makes for disturbing reading. China is taking utmost advantage of the situation and with Pakistan a willing ally, evil designs are taking over.

We were already surrounded by hostile neighbours and now the situation seems to be getting worse with the Taliban taking over Afghanistan. It would be in India's interests to make the right diplomatic moves to ensure the safety and integrity of our nation.

—Melville X. D'Souza  
Mumbai

## A MAN OF GOD

I was shocked and deeply saddened at the news of the demise of Monsignor Benny Aquiar on the 26th August, 2021. He was the for-

mer Editor of The Examiner a Catholic Newsweekly and having laboured 71 years of his Priestly Ministry in the Lord's Vineyard and also having completed 95 years of his age.

The first point that strikes me about him that he was a loving priest and calm as well soft spoken and reached out to help the poor and well as the needy. His Priestly mission truly made him a caring Shepherd to his flock, his motto was "Truth and the Love of God and Neighbour". He emphasised the importance of reaching out in love and was ever so faithful to his work. He did full justice to his

(Contd.. from p. 2)

State. In normal circumstances the list is cleared as a matter of routine unless of course the recommended names are not qualified to be so nominated. Of course, the Governor also exercises due diligence when he considers those recommendations. It is his or her prerogative to take a call but call he must take.

The Constitution, which is one of the most comprehensive ones, did not foresee any problem in the Governor clearing the names in a reasonable time. Of course, when the constitution was framed, only eminent people [not leaning towards any political party] were supposed to be appointed to that coveted post. That was the spirit of this provision. No time limit was stipulated for a Governor to take a decision. Only decades later, such appointments saw discarded politicians being accommodated as Governors. The spirit of that provision is being violated with only political figures being appointed as Governors. Generally when a sitting CM is to be replaced, the incumbent CM is packed off as Governor by the party in power. At times, someone is appointed as Governor in a State ruled

vocation as Priest under that stern exterior was a Heart of Gold. Many will carry vivid memories of his dynamism.

As a true Man of God. His hard-work his self sacrifice, his generous help to the poor and needy during his ministry in the Archdiocese and various parishes will not go unrewarded.

The Archdiocese has truly lost a "GEM" TO fill his place will be truly difficult and it will take a long time to do so.

"Oh Happy Soul be thankful now, and rest, Heaven is a godly land And God is love, and those he loves are Blest."

May God grant him every Blessings which he richly deserves and grant eternal Peace and Joy.

— John Andres Lobo,  
Dadar

by an opposition party only to take on that party and create hurdles. This is become the new norm of late and we see running battles between CMs and Governors in opposition ruled states. Governors are supposed to be bipartisan but sadly it is not so.

For months the Maharashtra Governor has not take a decision on the names recommended by the government despite repeated reminders. It is rather shameful that politics should be played even in such trivial matters. Ultimately, the matter went to the court but since the judiciary cannot dictate terms to a Governor, it only 'hoped' that the Governor will take a decision in a reasonable time – something that is not precisely defined anywhere. Still the matter is not sorted out which is disrespect to the advice of the learned court. The President ought to have stepped in. It is time for the Union government to revisit and stipulate a time limit of say three months after which the names will be deemed to have been approved. The Modi government will not do that as it is the BJP policy to keep the friction between opposition CMs and Governors simmering. That is their definition of 'good governance'.

# Covid Carry Civic Care

**If you are caring for yourself or a loved one at home, how can you keep everyone safe? Who should be cared for at home? How to prevent COVID-19 infection in other family members? What red flags should you look for that tell you it is time to contact the health care provider?**

**With Covid19** in its second and third avatar, the key behind Garbage segregation has taken a back seat and there is more to follow. The restrictions on plastic are also slowly being forgotten and we shops show little respect to government orders on ban on plastics. Apparently, our civic body did crack the whip last year for a few months though that was on single-use plastics and not garbage segregation. Does this mean that a ban on single use plastics was an unpopular decision which could overturn Governments? It just goes to show how effective our civic agencies have become when it comes to implementing the law.

There is after all an outright ban on plastics and yet here we have the Corporation openly stating that it decided to be lenient on the matter. Which brings us back to segregation at source. With 58 per cent non-compliance, it clearly indicates that the majority in the city are not in favour of segregation. It does not show our leaders and administrators in a good light. And as for the citizenry, if this is how they can behave in a metropolis that claims to be modern, inclusive, and enlightened in outlook, then it is a very sad state of affairs. Posterity will judge us very harshly indeed. But we guess this does not concern the violators all that much.

So the first scenario is when the health system is stretched. This happens when, for example, there is a sudden increase or surge in cases in the community, as we are seeing right now in many countries, and the bed capacity within the hospital is almost

full or is full. It means that there are hardly any beds left. In this case, what the doctors may do is they might see a patient and give them the treatment and advice and then discharge them to be taken care of at home.

The second scenario, which is the ideal scenario, is when patients test positive, however, they don't have any symptoms or they have very mild symptoms and they don't have any underlying diseases like cardiovascular disease or chronic lung disease and they're not elderly. So these people can be taken care of at home. However, they must, importantly, first contact their health care provider for real time advice.



Jayanthi Subramaniam

The first and important point is that the person, the patient should stay in a separate room. If this is not possible, then they should have a designated part of the home and their movements around the house should be limited. Also, there should be one meter, at least one meter distance between them and anyone else. Secondly, it's critical to have good ventilation in that patient's room and any shared spaces. So this means to really have fresh, clean air coming through as much as possible.

And this can be done just by opening the windows. Unfortunately, though, it obviously needs to be safe to do so. Thirdly, there should only be one person who is the caregiver for that patient and that caregiver should have no underlying condition. Fourthly, whenever patients receive care, they should wear a medical mask, as should the caregiver. And as soon

as the caregiver leaves the room, they need to make sure to wash their hands. Also, the patients should have their own designated or personalized, if you want to call it that, dishes and cups, towels and bed linens.

And these can be washed with soap and water at least once a day. Also importantly, any frequently touched surfaces by the patient have to be cleaned and disinfected every day and any waste generated from that patient should be packed safely. And finally, unfortunately, there should be no visitors allowed during the time that the patient is ill. When caring for patients at home, it is important to monitor the condition regularly. Ideally, this should be at least once a day for any signs and symptoms, complications or red flags, as you call them. And the important point here to note is that the flags can vary slightly depending on the age. So for adults, these include the adults complaining of lightheadedness. They could be having shortness of breath, heavy breathing, complaining of chest pains, looking dehydrated.

For children, it can often be them suddenly appearing confused, being off their food, having blue lips or face. And infants, or also known as babies, an inability for them to breastfeed. So in any of these cases, urgent care needs to be seen. While at home, some patients may be asked to measure the oxygen saturation with a pulse oximetry. This is a medical device that monitors the blood oxygen level.

It is a very useful device. However, it is important that the user has clear instructions on how to use it and also to know what is an abnormal reading or a normal measure. And when this happens, importantly, they need to urgently call their health care provider. The main aspect of Covid19 care is civic hygiene. This was practically witnessed in the satellite city Navi Mumbai showed grit and determination with cleanliness measures, which earned the city the right to become the number one city for cleanliness. Cleanliness is next to godliness and that is proved right during covid19 care.

# Capuchin Fr Alfred Roche for sainthood from Udupi



**U**dupi diocese, with Vatican authority, declared late Rev Fr. Alfred Roche (Jan 3, 1924 – Dec 31, 1996) a 'Servant of God' (SG) at a solemn mass on Sunday, August 15, 2021, a capuchin priest long based in Brahmavar, and local areas. Udupi Bishop Rev Dr Gerald Isaac Lobo, officiated at the rituals at Holy Family Parish, Brahmavar, assisted by leading Capuchins of the province and several priests. There was a good attendance of nuns and enthusiastic lay parishioners at the ceremony following strict Covid protocols. The grave in the parish was decorated and blessed where many paid their tribute with devotion. Many Kanara origin Konkani catholics show their joy on this occasion in many parts of the world.

'Servant of God' (SG) Fr, Alfred Roche is seen by all as a wonderful saintly priestly, filled with human qualities and good works for the people in the region, which have been remembered from time to time by the Capuchin congregation and people of Kanara and kept alive. The bishop and all the various speakers at the ceremony expressed the fitting qualities of SG Fr. Alfred to be a candidate for sainthood. He is also the first from the community of Udupi to receive this honour and it is hoped that the complicated and time consuming process first locally and then in the Vatican will come to fruition as quickly as possible by the grace of God. In Kanara, SG Fr. Alfred is the second candidate after SG Mgr Raymond F C Mascarenhas was declared 'Servant God' in 2008,



by **Ivan Saldanha-Shet**

the first from the Karnataka Konkani catholics, his cause has completed its local investigations and the matter is under investigations at the Vatican. In the case of SG Fr. Alfred, the bishops of Karnataka and all concerned, gladly approved the cause.

Very shortly the actual process will officially commence once all the details are sorted out and officials for the various commissions and so on will be put in place. Tremendous amounts of information and material evidence needs to be gathered, investigated and systematically documented under the Postulator of the cause. It is fortunate that several facts are known to local people as much of life was spent here, his grave is well preserved here. Let us look at a few life details of the this saintly priest and now officially 'Servant of God' the first step towards sainthood :

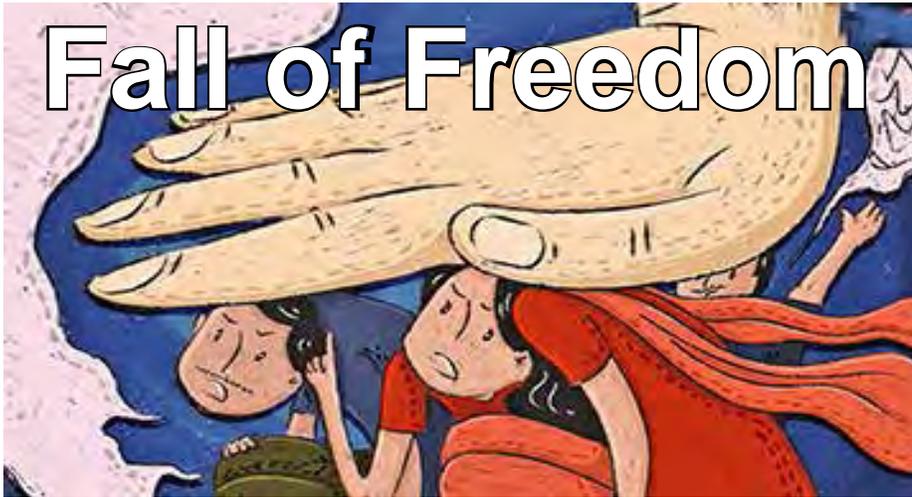
**Early Life :** April 3, 1924: Born Peter John Roche Moodahadu Kudru, a small island near Barkur in South Kanara is part of St Peter's Church Barkuru- Son of Isaac Roche and Carmine Monteiro. April 12, 1924: Baptized at St. Peter's Church, Barkur. Feb 3, 1944: Vested at Monte Mariano, Farangipet, in the diocese of Mangalore with the new name 'Alfred', April 11, 1945: First Profession.

**Priestly Progress :** April 11, 1949: Final Profession at St. Anthony's Friary, Quilon, Kerala. Theological Studies: at Amalashram, Trichy, Tamilnadu, and at St. Joseph's Friary, Kotagiri,

Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu. April 11, 1952: Sacerdotal Ordination at St. Joseph's friary, Kotagiri, Nilgiris, Tamilnadu. • April 14, 1952: was appointed the vice-novice master at Monte Mariano, Farangipet. April 6, 1956: was appointed the parish priest of the Holy Family Church at Brahmavar in the diocese of Mangalore (presently the diocese of Udupi). Fr. Alfred Roche was the first Capuchin to work in this parish. July 18, 1972: He was transferred to St. Ann's Church Binaga in the diocese of Belgaum (today diocese of Karwar) as the parish priest. April 30, 1975: He took charge of St. Joseph's Parish at Lower Kasarkod, in the diocese of Belgaum (today diocese of Karwar). In June 1981 he was transferred to the novitiate fraternity at Monte Mariano, Farangipet as the superior (guardian) where he rendered his service for six years with his exemplary life. • June 1, 1987: once again he was transferred to Lower Kasarkod as the parish priest of St. Joseph's Church and the superior (guardian) of St. Joseph's Friary.

**Sun set :** In 1994, as a retired friar, Fr. Alfred was transferred to Holy Family Friary brahmavar. Dec 31, 1996: At 5.30 am came the final call from above at Fr. Muller's Hospital, Mangalore through a cardiac attack. Jan. 1, 1997: The Funeral Mass was celebrated in the Holy Family Church, Brahmavar. It was officiated by his Lordship Aloysius D'Souza, the Bishop of Mangalore, along with Rev. Fr. Vincent Furtado OFM Cap, the Provincial Minister, and many priests and religious along with thousands of lay people from all walks of life coming from far and near. Owing to the special request of the faithful of Holy Family Church, Brahmavar, the provincial definitory granted the permission to have the body of Fr. Alfred Roche to be buried in the Parish Cemetery of Holy Family Church, Brahmavar where he had served for 18 years. His tomb is now visited by many, and he is now a saint in the making in this holy land of Kanara, there are high hopes that the cause will successfully come to fruition as per God's will.

# Fall of Freedom



by Don Aguiar.

It has escaped no one what has happened in the weeks past, and what I am talking about is Afghanistan. The government which was propped up by the Western powers was toppled in less than 2 weeks, and what was supposed to be a 300,000-strong army turned out to be an apparent illusion.

In the end, it came down to this. On the day we Indians celebrated the 74th anniversary of the end of foreign rule, the proud and patriotic people of another country in our South Asian region finally ended the “forever war” waged by a mighty foreign power, and also ended the corrupt and inept rule of a puppet government propped up by that superpower. The so-called ‘Afghan Army’, to which the US gave fancy weapons, simply surrendered to the Taliban’s guerrilla warriors without a semblance of a fight.

As per the Biden administration agreement with the Taliban they would vacate by 11 September 2021, and in that time had to get Ashraf Ghani to resign and form a National Government with the Taliban as main partner. Since Ashraf Ghani refused to resign, the Americans changed the deadline to 31 August 2021 to teach him a lesson and suddenly and quietly pulled out almost 25 days before the fresh deadline, leaving behind their sophisticated weapons. Seeing this the Afghan president Ashraf Ghani

too quietly decided to flee the country immediately creating an Afghan leadership crises and chaos everywhere leaving it open for the Taliban.

While the US must answer questions on its sudden withdrawal from Afghanistan and the strategy, or the lack of it, behind it, there are questions that the Afghan President, National Defence and Security Forces must answer.

What is also being alleged is that though the US spent a massive 88.3 billion \$ over 10 years, systems of checks and balances were poor. On paper, the Afghan National Forces had 7 Corps but, on the ground, several hundred troops were only on paper. There are reports that weapons and loyalties changed hands as the Taliban advanced. Some poorly paid soldiers with subpar leadership and torn loyalties took off their uniforms and switched sides.

Multiple reasons are being offered for the debacle of the Afghan Army -- from corruption to poor leadership. If women in Afghanistan are coming out on the streets to resist and several journalists and activists have spoken up demanding rights protesting against the Taliban today, if men are fighting for the honour of Afghanistan's flag today and if the Northern Alliance in this now-or-never fight is emerging as a force of resistance now, why was the Afghans not united in taking on the Taliban?

Neither the lethal power of weapons, nor the economic power of their supplier, guarantees victory in a war. The Taliban had no air force and no regular army. Yet, they emerged victorious against both America and its stooge in Kabul. Why? Because their fighters got the Afghans to have the belief and faith in their struggle.

Has reality dawned on the Afghans that sharia law will be enforced by the Taliban leading to their FALL OF FREEDOM, have now started uniting themselves against the Taliban?

However, just because the Taliban have gained power does not mean they have already gained complete legitimacy in the eyes of the Afghans or the international community. The world has not forgotten their many atrocities, committed under the influence of a fanatical and extremist interpretation of Islam.

Afghanistan is at a crossroads once again. The West appears to have lost the battle in the mind; the people are fighting for their survival and way of life. Afghan officials of the earlier dispensation say it took close to 10 billion dollars a year to run the government. Afghanistan was able to generate two billion dollars on its own and the rest came from the West. The women hope the US, Europe and the democratic world will put pressure on the Taliban to ensure an inclusive government giving women their rights in return for foreign aid. All eyes are on the Taliban. Is the Taliban 2.0 any different from the 1996-2001 government? The Afghans fleeing the country say there is no difference, but the world is watching.

**What is now more dangerous than Afghanistan...? The catastrophic Afghanistan move by Biden has left the Pakistan Deep State stronger and more dangerous, enabled by Washington's funds and ammunition.**

(Contd.. on p. 9)

Whatever form of government emerges in Afghanistan, it cannot be good news for India. Surrounded by a hostile Pakistan, a belligerent China and yet an unsure Iran, India has to remain vigilant to the developing situation. From past experience with Taliban there is always a clear and present danger to Indian interest in the region. If and when interest of Pakistan, Taliban-led Afghanistan, and China and to some extent Iran converge and unite to forge another QUAD, it could pose a threat right at India's doorstep.

Afghanistan is a wakeup call on dangers of playing excessive religious politics. The return of Taliban is an occasion for India to strongly assert modern democratic values at all levels of society, not double back into copy-cat medieval religious wars.

The fall of Kabul puts India at a severe disadvantage, Is New Delhi better prepared for Taliban 2.0? Pakistan has long been blamed of providing the group with logistics, arms and medical aid, has gained the most from the ongoing crises. As Pakistan's strategic interest in Afghan is to counter Indian influence and mitigate spill over into their country. **Experts are saying that Al Qaeda and Daesh have reached some areas in Afghanistan. ISI is an enemy of India. ISI controls Taliban and uses it like a puppet. Now consider where India fits in.**

Perhaps the West, need to learn in the NOT to impose their so-called values of freedom down other people's throats or at least, they should be less naive about the values and traditions of other countries.

There are many losers in the 20-year or so engagement with Afghanistan, not least the civil population but also the dead and wounded from the war and many around the world now have to ask themselves: "Was it worth it?" Bush's war on terror and "either you are with us or against us" has led nowhere, and we don't seem to be much safer now than 20 years ago, frankly.

## The Holy Infant - Queen, Mary ...

In the beautiful decorated Cradle  
You lie with an enchanting smile!  
Holy Infant-Queen, Mary, so beautiful  
Drawing attention of one and all!

To Anna and Joachim your parents  
Your birth has brought joy in abundance!  
For, their home now greatly shines  
With heaven's graces and blessings!

Now we all join them in watching  
Your innocent and joyous baby-smiles!  
As you look at us gladly smiling  
We joyously sing for you our bullabies!

O Immaculate Virgin, pure and sinless!  
You are the "Solitary Boast" of our human race!  
Angel Gabriel salute you, "Hail, Full of Grace!"  
Gave you the glad tidings, of the birth of Jesus!

To Father's will humbly "Yes" you said!  
Holy Spirit overshadowed your womb at once!  
You became the first "Living Tabernacle" of Jesus!  
For 9 Months He shared your flesh and blood!

Happy Birthday Mamma Mary our mother!  
You have brought to earth Jesus our Redeemer  
Who became our Lord and Saviour  
And set free from sin, every sinner!

Help us to love and serve Him always  
And to see Him in the poor and helpless  
By walking in His footsteps as His followers  
And be His true witnesses at all times!

*Sr. Marie Ange  
Bethany Convent, Bendore, Mangalore*

However, where there are losers there are also winners. The weapons industry is the big winner, and it remains to be seen where the next conflict will happen in order to feed the military industrial complex animal. If we look at Libya after the bombing of the country and toppling of Gadhafi, it seems that country, too, was in dire straits and now has been for years.

The first test of patriotism is that when a country is invaded, it is the duty of its patriots to fight the aggressor to the last drop of their blood and drive them back. This is yet to happen in Libya and Afghanistan.....

Do not go by what is visible outwardly – a lot remains hidden below the surface. It is now coming out that USA deliberately vacated Afghanistan to entice China into it so as to reduce pressure on Taiwan – a bigger game of super power wits. It is yet to be seen whether China bites the bait, though it had met the Taliban delegation.

This article pays its respects to all who lost something during the 20 years of engagement, and time will tell whether or not an inch of difference was achieved when the smoke clears from the Kabul Airport runway.

**Struck by the sudden announcement of the National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP), Rahul Gandhi exclaimed, "The government clearly has mishandled the economy and does not know what to do now. As a last resort, they are selling everything.... To me, this is a huge tragedy; it is something every patriotic person and every nationalistic person should oppose."**

## INDIA FOR SALE?

**W**e were accustomed to privatisation and disinvestment exercises of governments from time to time, but Modi Sarkar now seems to be selling the whole country! Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched the National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP). NMP document prepared by Niti Aayog on Monday August 23, 2021. NMP is expected to fetch the government an estimated Rs 6 lakh crore over four years by selling government properties and assets. The government plans to make the most out of its underutilised assets. The government has identified 13 sectors — including airports, railways, roads, shipping, gas pipeline among others— which will be privatised as the government aims to monetise its Brownfield infrastructure assets. Here's is a breakdown of everything that is going to be privatised:

- ✓ Road assets, including 22% of National Highways, worth ₹1.60 lakh crore.
- ✓ Railway assets worth ₹1.52 lakh crore. Key rail assets identified for monetisation include 400 railway stations, 90 passenger trains, 1 route of 1,400 km railway track, 741 km of Konkan Railway, 15 railway stadiums and selected railway colonies, 265 railway owned goods-sheds, and 4 hill railways.
- ✓ Power Transmission assets worth over ₹45,000 crore.
- ✓ Coal mining assets worth ₹28,747 crore.
- ✓ Telecom assets to fetch ₹35,100 crore.



**Fr. Michael G. Vasai**

- ✓ Shipping assets worth ₹12,828 crore.
- ✓ Warehousing assets worth ₹28,900 crore.
- ✓ Realty, hotel assets to fetch ₹15,000 crore.

The total value of assets considered for monetisation is estimated at ₹11,450 crore for FY 2022-2025, with capex phasing as ₹1,650 crore in ₹2022, ₹2,100 crore in FY 2023, ₹3,200 crore in FY 2024 and ₹4,500 crore in FY 2025.

I imagine Modiji, a Gujarati bania, standing in a market place and calling out a grand bargain sale, and a grand closing-down sale! Modiji often claims that nothing happened in India for the last 70 years, but now he is counting the above mentioned huge number of assets created precisely in the Congress regime just to sell them! The underhand purpose may be –in the RSS spirit- just to destroy every trace of the Gandhi-Nehru family in the country! No one is against privatisation but there should be a strategy for privatisation. Strategy is to sell assets that are chronically loss-making, with minimal market share; not to sell strategic assets and

companies where there is a risk of monopolies being created.

### Too Ambitious To Get Done!

Subhash Chandra Garg, former Finance secretary is in favour of the monetisation program. He does not even worry about the few industrialists like

Ambani-Adani who would monopolise the assets. But according to him the Monetisation plan as announced is too ambitious and has no likelihood of getting done. Garg does not see more than 10% of the target being met! He further comments, *"Whenever the government comes up with these mega pipelines — infrastructure pipeline earlier and monetisation pipeline now, the numbers are staggering, very big. There is absolutely no capacity, no clarity of structure. The sheer inability is seen!"* Knowing the Finance Minister Sitaraman as half-baked in finance, guided by Modi who takes sudden decisions like demonetisation and lockdown alone, the execution of the NMP is going to be a mess and a long lasting trouble for Poor Bharat!

The past bad experience indicates the failure of the present one. The government did monetise the six airports in 2019, but thereafter there hasn't even been a single transaction. On roads also, we have struggled. There have been only five packages so far of ToT (Toll Operate Transfer model). Two of them did not take off at all in the last five years; we have only done three. There is not much success anywhere else. The institutional mechanisms which we have created are also not at all conducive for it.

(Contd.. on p. 11)

### What Do The Opposition Say?

The NMP is a “shocking and unfortunate decision for every conscientious citizen. The Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has criticised the decision and accused the BJP of selling out the country’s assets built in the last 70 years. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee lashed out at the Centre over its NMP policy, claiming that the policy is a “ploy to sell assets that belong to the country and not to Prime Minister Narendra Modi or the BJP”. The CM alleged that the money raised by selling these assets would be used during elections against opposition parties!

Along with former Finance minister P Chidambaram, Rahul Gandhi said all assets will go to “only three or four people”, as these are the sectors where those three or four people are interested in. *“This entire privatisation is designed to create monopolies for three or four people.... that own everything in this country.”* The Congress leaders have promised to study the other issues related to the exercise — like “what happens to reservations, and...what happens to the strategic industries” — and come out with their views soon.

### Unplanned Thoughtless Exercise!

The former finance minister Mr. Chidambaram must be listened to with special attention. According to him this exercise has been designed without any ex-ante criteria. The government is embarking upon such a big exercise without first setting out its criteria and goals without consultations with stakeholders, without a dialogue with concerned citizens like the railway unions and employees, port workers, farmers! Chidambaram feels *“This is all hatched in secrecy of this wonderful organisation called Niti Aayog.”* The government claims it is going to raise money. Chidambaram asks, “Can that be a goal by itself? Can that be a sole goal to virtually sell assets built over 70 years? In order to collect Rs 1.5 lakh crore a year by way of rents, call it by whatever name, they are indulging in what I would call

a grand bargain sale, a grand closing-down sale, because virtually no public sector will be left after this exercise.”

The Finance Minister has said that the exercise will be co-terminus with the Rs 100 lakh crore national infrastructure pipeline (NIP) announced by the Prime Minister earlier. Chidambaram said: *“You are collecting Rs 6 lakh crore in four years to build a Rs 100-lakh crore infrastructure. What arithmetic is this?... I know there are many magicians in this country but I can’t imagine a greater magician than this government. I think this is a scandal. People must begin to discuss it, debate it...”* This is a dangerous slide and all of us wish the country wakes up to what Sitaraman and Modi are up to!

Slamming the move, the CPI(M) Politburo said, it is like *“Selling family silver to meet daily expenditure! It makes neither economic nor common sense. Selling assets when the markets are low benefits only crony corporates who promote crony capitalism.”*

### Jagruk Citizens, Awake!

Addressing the media in Kolkata, TMC’s deputy leader in Rajya Sabha, Sukhendu Sekhar Roy, said that the National Monetisation Pipeline is an “unprecedented anti-people move” that did not figure in the BJP’s manifesto for the 2019 Lok Sabha polls. It was also not discussed in Parliament, said Roy, who is TMC’s chief whip in the Upper House. or any Parliamentary committee, or the consultative committee of the Finance Ministry. the Trinamool leader said. “There was a brief mention (of it) in the Budget speech of the Finance Minister. This was decided by the NITI Aayog, which is not a constitutional body. It was set up after a recommendation from the government.” Since it was not mentioned in the BJP’s election manifesto, the NMP did not have the consent of the public, he added.

It is the end of the public sector. It is alarming that a perpetual lease has been granted to the private sector and this lease can be extended further! It will destroy the ecosystem. Work security will no longer exist, and hire-

and-fire policy will dictate. No strikes or protests will be allowed. The government is doing this because it has gone bankrupt. It is not working for the public but for corporate companies. We must oppose this kind of economic reforms.”

Due to privatisation the road toll charges will increase, railway tickets will become dearer. The middle class together with the poor will suffer! Nothing is left for the next government even for disinvestment! The end of the social character of the country! It is against the social nature of the Indian Constitution. But who cares? One time Modiji had promised, that *kuchchh nahi bechunga*, but now he seems vow, *“Nothing bachahunga! All will be sold; nothing will be saved!*

Leasing is worse than selling! It actually means selling the properties for future times after 2024 when the Modi government may not be in power! So Modiji is confiscating the powers of the next government!

WHAT A DAYLIGHT ROBBERY In an unconstitutional way! Vah re Modiji!

-----  
\*Fr. Michael G., Ex-Director Catechetics,  
NBCLC & Marathi Khristi Sahitya  
Parishad., Guide, Jeevan Jyoti Sangh,  
Mobile: 9326433487.

### Subscriptions for

**THE SECULAR CITIZEN**

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

Bank: HDFC Bank  
Branch : CST - Mumbai VT  
Account Name: The Secular Citizen  
Current Account No. 0355200006744  
ISFC code: HDFC0000355  
or  
Bank: Citizen Credit Co-op Bank Ltd.,  
Branch : Colaba, Mumbai  
Account Name: The Secular Citizen  
CurentAccountNo. 209003100000489  
ISFC code: CCBL0209003

Please inform us through email: secular@sezariworld.com or through phone: 9820485389 after transferring the same.

## Sindhi on his death time.

My wife, where are you ?

Wife:Yes, I'm here

My sons daughters are you all here?

Yes, Papa

Sindhi:*To phir bahar wale kamre  
ka pankha Q chal raha hay ??*

\*\*\*\*\*

The British PM and the US President are sitting in a bar. A guy walks in and asks the barman, 'Isn't that The British PM and the US President?'

The barman says 'Yep, that's them.' So the guy walks over and says, 'Hello, what are you guys doing?'

The British PM says, 'We're planning world war 3'

The guy says, 'Really? What's going to happen?'

And the US President says, 'Well, we're going to kill 14 million Pakistanis and one bicycle repairman.'

And the guy exclaimed, 'A bicycle repairman?! !'

The British PM turns to US President and says, 'See, I told you no-one would worry about the 14 million Pakistanis!'

\*\*\*\*\*

## Politicians on the moon:

Q: What do you call 1 Politician on the moon?

A: Problem....

Q: What do you call 10 Politicians on



the moon?

A: Problem...

Q: What do you call a 100 Politicians on the moon?

A: Problem...

Q: What do you call ALL the Politicians on the moon?

A: ..... Problem Solved!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

A police officer attempts to stop a car for speeding and the guy gradually increases his speed until he's topping 100 mph. He eventually realizes he can't escape and finally pulls over.

The cop approaches the car and says, 'It's been a long day and my tour is almost over, so if you can give me a good excuse for your behavior, I'll let you go.' The guy thinks for a

(Contd.. on p. 13)

# Matrimonial Proposals

## Proposals are invited for

**Mangalorean RC Bachelor, 31 years belonging to a highly educated and very affluent family with interests in healthcare, agriculture and many other sectors, Tall, Fair, Handsome, Holding Doctorate, managing the family business in Karnataka State. (REF:MM104)**

**40 years Mangalorean bachelor doctor (Ph.D) Ht. 6' Wt. 75 kg Fair., Had some. no bad habits. High affluent society well connected. Belongs to highly placed business family in Mumbai (REF:MM103)**

**27 years Mangalorean spinster C.A., Ht. 5'5" Wt. 50 kg Fair., Beautiful. well cultured. Affluent society. Belongs to established business family in Maharashtra (REF:MM105)**

**28 year Mumbai based Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 72 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Profession : a Banker (REF:MM109)**

**Vasai based affluent business family R.C. East Indian Spinster, 33, years Ht. 5' 2", very beautiful and pretty. MS General Surgeon, Doctor by profession. (REF:106)**

**Mumbai based now in Dubai Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, 33 years, Ht. 5' 7", Fair Complexion, Edn.**

**BMS, profession: a Senior Merchandiser (REF:107)**

**Mumbai based Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, 29 years, Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 72 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., C.A., Holding a managerial post. (REF:108)**

**Mangalorean RC Spinster, 34 years belonging to a highly educated middleclass family based in Mumbai Ht.5'.4" Wt. 78 Kg. Fair Qualified B.E., (EXTC) M.S. Consultant by profession (REF:FM109)**

**Mangalorean RC Spinster, 31 years Ht. 5".7" Wt. 69 Kgs, Fair. Mumbai based M.Sc., Clinical Research. Profession : Business Process Lead in MNC (REF:MM104)**

*Those interested in this proposal :*

- Registered members of Royal Christian Family can just email us mentioning the respective ref. no. and your registered no.
- Non registered Grooms or Brides are requested to upload your profile at our website [www.royalchristianfamily.com](http://www.royalchristianfamily.com) and contact us on our email: [royalchristianfamily@gmail.com](mailto:royalchristianfamily@gmail.com) mentioning the respective ref. no. along with your registered ID.

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

(Contd.. from p. 12)

few seconds and then says, "My wife ran away with a cop about a week ago. I thought you might be that officer trying to give her back.

\*\*\*\*\*

**A murderer, sitting in the electric chair, was about to be executed.**

Have you any last requests? Asked the chaplain.

Yes, replied the murderer. "Will you hold my hand?"

\*\*\*\*\*

A man was driving down the road with twenty penguins in the back seat. The police stop him and say that he can't drive around with the penguins in the car and should take them to the zoo. The man agrees and drives off.

The next day the same man is driving down the road with twenty penguins in the back and again. He is stopped by the same police officer who says, "Hey! I though I told you to take those to the zoo."

The man replies "I did. Today I'm taking them to the movies."

\*\*\*\*\*

**A police man stops a lady and asks for her licence. He says,**

"Lady, it says here that you should be wearing glasses."

The Women answered, I have contacts."

The police man replied, "I don't care whom you know! I'm still giving you challan(Fine ticket)!"

\*\*\*\*\*

**Promote your products and services.  
Find new clients**

Advertise in

**THE SECULAR CITIZEN**

Contact:

Tel.: +91 9820485389 /  
9820473103

Email: secular@sezariworld.com

## Chocolate Smash Cake

### Ingredients:

#### For the cake:

100 ml whole milk  
225 gms golden caster sugar  
225 gms unsalted butter, at room temperature  
2 tsp baking powder  
225 gms plain flour, sifted  
4 eggs  
1 tsp vanilla extract

#### For the dome:

280 gms white chocolate, finely chopped  
2 tsp coloured sprinkles

#### To decorate:

470 gms chilled Philadelphia cream cheese  
150 gms Lotus Biscoff spread  
120 gms white chocolate buttons, giant and regular  
2 handfuls of sweets, to half-fill the dome

#### You will need:

2x18 cm sandwich tins  
A bowl with a rounded base

#### Method:

Heat the oven to 150 degrees centigrade. Grease and line the base and sides of the sandwich tins. Put all the cake ingredients and a pinch of salt in a bowl and mix with an electric whisk until smooth. Divide between the tins, smooth the top and bake in the middle of the oven for 30-40 minutes.

For the dome, set the bowl on a baking tray, flat edge down. Smooth 2 sheets of clingfilm over the top. Next, melt the chocolate in a heatproof bowl set over gently simmering water, then mix until smooth.

Pour the chocolate evenly over the clingfilmed dome, then add some sprinkles. Leave it to set, then trim the edge with a dry, hot knife and chill until ready to serve – it must stay in the fridge until ready to smash to get the snap.

To decorate, beat half the cream cheese with the Biscoff spread, then add the rest of the cream cheese and the icing sugar, and mix until smooth. Spread about 1/4 of the Biscoff mixture on top of one of the cakes, then top with the other sponge and spread over the remaining mixture.

Decorate the sides with chocolate buttons, add the sweets on top, then set the dome on top – and get smashing!



Sweta D'Cruz

## Good Proposals

Wide Choice of Christian  
Brides and Grooms available

Contact:

**Royal Christian Family**

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

Tel.: +91-9820485389 / 9820473103

Email: royalchristianfamily@gmail.com

Website: www.royalchristianfamily.com

# Cataclysmic Coronacalamity

As the pandemic continues to unleash in wave after wave its virulent sting all across the globe, this article in ten parts traces the historical perspective of pandemics down the ages, the genesis of the current calamity, the vaccine conundrum and the prognosis for the future

## Part I: FICTION OR REALITY

*In the genre of science fiction, be it Zombie apocalypse or a deadly virus outbreak. Hollywood has always been obsessed with films like Contagion and Pandemic which were the products of imaginative writers and film-makers. They depicted with much realism the grim fallout of such an occurrence in real life. Did these writers have a foreboding of the future or was it just their imagination running wild?*

Most blockbuster Hollywood films like **Apocalypse Now** have been in the realm of Science fiction, be it Zombie apocalypse or a deadly virus outbreak. Hollywood's obsession with disaster films has raked in the moolah and have spawned many clones. While many of these focused on alien attacks and doomsday scenarios, it was films that depicted mass human annihilation from a virus related disease that sent shivers down the spine of many viewers.

Two such films were the 2016 blockbuster science fiction thriller, *Pandemic* which depicted the story of a devastating virus outbreak as the world is plunged into a state of chaos, zombies roam the streets, while survivors fight to stay alive and an earlier 2011 film, *Contagion*, an American thriller film plot which concerned the spread of a virus transmitted by fomites, attempts by medical researchers and public health officials to identify and contain the disease, the loss of social order in

a pandemic, and finally the introduction of a vaccine to halt its spread.

**The Crazies**, was a science fiction horror film which focused on a fictional Iowa town that becomes afflicted by a military virus that turns those infected into violent killers.

**28 Days Later**, a similar genre post-apocalyptic horror film depicts the breakdown of society following the accidental release of a highly contagious virus and focuses upon the struggle of four survivors to cope with the destruction of the life. The plot and the storyline mimics the real life evolution of the Corona virus from a suspected accidental release.



**Thomas Lobo** is retired Director-Pfizer Ltd, former Campus Director of St. John Technical & Educational Campus at Palghar and is currently a freelance Management Advisor to Higher Educational Institutions and a Life Coach

**'12 Monkeys'** is an American neo-noir science fiction film which shows the future world devastated by disease as a convict is sent back in time to gather information about the man-made virus that wiped out most of the human population on the planet.

**I am Legend:** The story is set in New York City after a virus, which was originally created to cure cancer, has wiped out most of mankind, Neville is a virologist who is immune to the virus and he works to develop a cure while defending himself against the hostile mutants.

All these films portrayed with much realism the grim fallout of such an occurrence in real life. The edge of the seat entertainment that such films provided also shocked viewers and created a fear psychosis among many. There were reports of viewers who

were mentally disturbed and needed psychiatric help. However, there were others who, while saluting the creative content and the gripping storyline, considered such films to be the over-ripe imagination of their writers and ridiculed the idea of a worldwide calamity due to disease as an affront to the highly advanced scientific capability of the world community to predict and rein in such infections.

What does history have to tell us... was all this just a figment of their imagination or just an extrapolation of similar disease related disasters down the centuries. Looking at the evidence of the various pandemics that have plagued the world for centuries which we will unravel in the next chapter, it does appear that these film makers seemed to have had a prescience or a foreboding of impending doom and it was not just their imagination running wild.

## Part II: THE VIRUS SCOURGE

*Viruses have plagued the world for centuries dating back to the first outbreak as early as 1350 BC causing widespread death, devastation & destruction of civilizations. Each such pandemic has been deadlier than its predecessor. Despite the rapid strides in science and technology, we are still at the mercy of a predator that strikes at will. How equipped are we to face its progressive onslaught?*

Throughout human history there have been a number of pandemics of diseases such as Smallpox or Tuberculosis and even HIV/AIDS. How does an infection qualify to be labeled as a pandemic.

A pandemic (from Greek παν, "all" and δῆμος, demos, "local people" the 'crowd') is an epidemic of an infectious disease that has spread across a large region, for instance multiple continents or worldwide, affecting

(Contd.. on p. 15)

a substantial number of people. A widespread endemic disease with a stable number of infected people is not a pandemic. Widespread endemic diseases with a stable number of infected people such as recurrences of seasonal influenza are generally excluded as they occur simultaneously in large regions of the globe rather than being spread worldwide. We are well aware that initially the WHO dragged its feet on alerting the world that the corona scourge had the characteristics of a pandemic, pandering to political pressure, especially from China from where the virus had originated & preferring to downplay it as an epidemic or an endemic disease. The delay in doing so proved disastrous as it resulted in the virus spreading like wildfire all across the globe.

Viruses have ravaged the world for centuries dating back to the first outbreak as early as 1350 BC causing widespread death, devastation & destruction of civilizations.

The most fatal pandemic in recorded history was the Black Death (also known as The Plague), which killed an estimated 75–200 million people in the 14th century in Eurasia and North Africa peaking in Europe from 1347-1351. Though the origin is disputed, it was most likely carried by fleas living on black rats that travelled on ships which spread further once they reached the shores of the Mediterranean Basin and Africa.

However, as a precursor to the Corona virus, it was the Spanish Flu, also known as the 1918 influenza pandemic, which was one of the most deadly global pandemic caused by the *H1N1 influenza A virus* which is documented to have originated in Kansas, US. It then spread to France, Germany and the UK infecting in the next two years an estimated 500 million people, which was then about a third of the world's population in four successive waves. Death toll estimates range from a conservative 17 million to a possible high of 100 million, more fatalities than in the previous four years of World War I. The name Spanish flu is a misnomer as the virus did not originate in Spain

but was first reported in the Spanish press which was neutral while the news was suppressed in other countries by censors in the aftermath of the World War.

It is evident that each such pandemic has been deadlier than its predecessor. Despite the rapid strides in science and technology, we are still at the mercy of a predator that strikes at will. The Corona virus that is currently wrecking havoc the world over has its antecedents in a similar coronavirus that infected large populations across the world in the early years of this century. Though its reach was limited, virologists tracking those infections may not have envisaged that the virus strains would evolve into something as deadly as what struck us in the form of Covid-19. It clearly shows how ill-equipped we are to tackle the progressive onslaught of a surreptitious enemy that is challenging the technological might of the best of the world's scientists. We will understand more about these corona precursors in our next chapter.

### Part III: THE CORONA PRECURSORS

*While Wikipedia lists 18 major outbreaks of virus pandemics over the centuries, some of these were precursors of the current Corona virus which we now know as Covid-19. In the recent past the world has faced two great epidemics caused by two different beta-corona viruses and they were named as SARS-CoV (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus) and (MERS-CoV Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus). Was there any evidence that these viruses would mutate into the deadly Covid-19?*

The world has faced the scourge of virus pandemics over the centuries with Wikipedia listing 18 such major outbreaks of virus pandemics. Some of these, particularly those that struck us in our present century, were precursors of the current Coronavirus which we now know as Covid-19. The Spanish Flu, referred to in our earlier chapter was in many respects identical in its spread and virulence to the present coronavirus.

Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases. They are a group of related RNA viruses that cause diseases in mammals and birds. In humans and birds, they cause respiratory tract infections that can range from mild to lethal.

The name "coronavirus" is derived from *Latincorona*, meaning "crown" or "wreath", itself a borrowing from Greek *κορώνη korōnē*, "garland, wreath".. The name refers to the characteristic appearance of virions (the infective form of the virus) by electron microscopy, which have a fringe of large, bulbous surface projections creating an image reminiscent of the solar corona or halo. This morphology is created by the viral spike peplomers which are proteins on the surface of the virus.

In the recent past, the world has faced two great epidemics caused by two different beta-corona viruses and they were named as SARS-CoV (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus) and (MERS-CoV Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus). SARS was the first severe and readily transmissible new disease to emerge in the 21st century and showed a clear capacity to spread along the routes of international air travel. It was first identified at the end of February 2003 during an outbreak that emerged in China and spread to 4 other countries but was brought quickly under control.

Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) is a viral respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus (Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus, or MERS-CoV) that was first identified in Saudi Arabia in 2012.

Both these viruses were airborne and spread through small droplets of saliva in a similar way to the cold and influenza or spread through surface contact

SARS-CoV-2 is the seventh coronavirus known to infect humans; SARS-CoV, MERS-CoV and SARS-CoV-2 can cause severe disease as mentioned earlier, whereas HKU1, NL63, OC43 and 229E are associated with mild symptoms.

(To be contd...)

# Royal Christian Family MATRIMONIALS - GROOMS

**7172. MUMBAI :** Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in August 1992) Ht. 6' 1", Wt. 90 kgs, Fair, Edn. Graduate, Diploma in Social Communications in Sophia and then done a Fellowship with Piramal House of Leadership. Working with an NGO - sports foundation. Contact email : florencemendonca@rediffmail.com

**7152. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in December 1989) Ht. 6', Wt. 70 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., having business. Contact email : emi\_dalmeida@yahoo.com

**7049. CANADA :** Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in June 1986), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 85 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. BE (Computer), working in CANADA in a Non IT Field Seeks a working girl in Canada and holding a PR Visa. Contact email : anniedrz@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

**7242. MUMBAI :** East Indian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in December 1992), Ht. 5' 8", Wt. 60 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MCA / MCS, working as a Software Developer. Contact email : mayapereira\_2000@yahoo.com

**7241. POONA :** Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in June 1988), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 65 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., Post Graduation Banking and Finance, working for Bank. Contact email : matri0688@yahoo.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

**7050. LONAVLA :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in November 1985), Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 75 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. MBA., working. Contact email : dsouza\_adrian@yahoo.co.in

**6841 MUMBAI :** Anglo Indian / Keralite Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in May 1991), Ht. 170 cms, Wt. 78 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Com., working as a Sales Executive. Contact email : mrsannieroy@yahoo.co.in

**6797 MUMBAI :** Goan Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in December 1987), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 72 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working for Five Star Hotel in Mumbai. Contact email : johnserrao14@yahoo.com

**6585. MUMBAI :** Mumbai born and broughtup Roman Catholic Bachelor, Handsome, (Born in June 1988), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 78 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. EXTC Engineering, working as a Networking Engineer. Having own accommodation. Contact email : 18.elaine@gmail.com

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

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

**6707 MUMBAI :** Goan RC bachelor, (Born in June 1975), Ht. 5' 10", Wt. 70

kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., having own business. Seeks a Family oriented girl. Contact email : maxabreo@yahoo.com / maxabreo@vsnl.net

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

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

**7097. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1991), Ht. 5' 11", Wt. 97 kgs, WheatishComplexion, Edn. B.Com., working as Sr. Account Recievable in private company. Contact email : dsouzadonald11@gmail.com

**7112. MUMBAI :** Converted Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in October 1970), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 80 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., & Masters in International Journalism (UK). Looking for a bride below the age of 42 years (below 40 - 42 years) who is willing to raise a family. Contact by email : decemberwedding08@yahoo.com

**7144. POONA :** Goan RC Bachelor, (Born in October 1985) Ht. 5' 5", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Hotel Management Graduate, working as an Executive. Contact email : merrolmenezes@gmail.com

**7113. POONA :** Tamilian Roman Catholic Bachelor, (Born in December 1982), Ht. 5' 6", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working in Logistic Co. in **DUBAI**. Contact email : shantasam1955@gmail.com

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

For Tel. Nos. Please contact:

+91- 9820473103 / 9820485389 or

Email : royalchristianfamily@gmail.com

## To Place Your Matrimonial Advertisement Call:

+91 - 9820485389 or 9820473103

\* Check your email at least once a week.

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

**If not settled within a year, renew your membership atleast two months in advance to continue the service uninterrupted.**

# Royal Christian Family MATRIMONIALS - BRIDES

**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

**7230. MUMBAI :** Silm, Smart, Beautiful Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in August 1995), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 50 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.Com., working in Pharmaceutical Company. Contact email : alex1947@rediffmail.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

**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 : ffernandes020@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

**7209. MUMBAI :** Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in October 1986), Ht. 5' 9", Wt. 100 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.A., & PG HR, working as a Trainer. Contact email : sweetroan17@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

**7149 GUJRAT :** Anglo Indian Catholic Spinster, (Born in July 1991), Ht. 5'2", Wt. 60 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. MBA, PGDM., working. Contact email : barnes.rufina@yahoo.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

**7095 MUMBAI :** Goan Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1992), Ht. 5' 3", Wt. 55 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.Com + Import Export Certificate Course, working as a Billing Assistant in Well known Hospital. Contact email : perpetualdias7@gmail.com

**7066. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in June 1987), Ht. 5' 4", Wt. 78 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. B.E., (EXTC) M.S. (International Business Management), working as a Consulting Manager. Contact email : l2018anselm@yahoo.com

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

**7065. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1989), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 69 kgs, Fair Complexion, Edn. M.Sc., & Dip. in Clinical Research, working as Business Process Lead in TCS. Contact email : mendonca\_luke@yahoo.co.in

**7174. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in September 1990), Ht. 5' 6", Fair Complexion, Beautiful, Edn. B.Com., MBA, PGDM, working for a Ad Agency in Toronto, **CANADA**. Contact email : roshanmehra@hotmail.com

**7055. U.K. :** Tamilian Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in April 1988), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 62 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Sc., working as a Staff Nurse in UK. Contact email : o365acc@gmail.com

**7156 MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in November 1993), Ht. 5'1", Wt. 65 kgs, Fair Complex-

ion, Edn. MBA., working in an IT Company as an Executive Assistant. Contact email : mumbai.lavi@gmail.com

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

**7138. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1984), Ht. 4' 11", Wt. 56 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as an Executive Assistant (Secretary). Contact email : labinajena@gmail.com

**7038. MUMBAI :** Gujarati Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in March 1976), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 52 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.A., working as a Senior Clerk. Contact email : sunitamacwan72@gmail.com

**7125. CANADA :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in February 1983), Ht. 5' 8", Wheatish Complexion, Edn. M.A., working as a Consultant. Contact email : Ilmendonca@shaw.ca

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

**7123. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean Roman Catholic Spinster, (Born in December 1987), Ht. 5' 2", Wt. 58 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. B.Com., CS., M.Sc., working as a Sr. Manager Programmer. Contact email : r.douza.co@gmail.com

**6990. MUMBAI :** Mangalorean RC Spinster, (Born in October 1981), Ht. 5' 7", Wt. 70 kgs, Wheatish Complexion, Edn. Graduate, Completed Aviation Course & holds knowledge of French Language and computer course. Only Child. Contact email : evane\_martis@yahoo.co.in

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

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

**To Place Your Matrimonial Advertisement Call:**

**+91 - 9820485389 or 9820473103**

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

**Royal Christian Family  
Helps In Choosing  
The Right Life-Partner  
Serving Since 41 Years**

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

For Tel. Nos. Please contact:

+91- 9820473103 / 9820485389 or

Email : royalchristianfamily@gmail.com

# Inviting Proposals for **USA Settled** Indian Christian Brides and Grooms

## Grooms

MU291119 - Age 34, Edn. MBA., PG.  
MU111311 - Age 33, Edn. BE (IT)  
MU121586 - Age 50, Edn. M. Eng.  
MU311596 - Age 43, Edn. B.Sc.,  
MU221671 - Age 35, Edn. ME., M.Tech. MS  
MU231795 - Age 42, Edn. MBA, PG., MS  
MU111888 - Age 35, Edn. Masters (IT)  
MU412052 - Age 30, Edn. ME., M.Tech.  
MU222121 - Age 32, Edn. M.Phil., Neu.Sc.  
MU112144 - Age 34, Edn. BE., B.Tech.,  
MU212208 - Age 41, Edn. BE., B.Tech.,  
MU332212 - Age 31, Edn. BE., B.Tech., (IT)  
MU212277 - Age 30. Edn. M.Sc., Masters  
MU332283 - Age 33. Edn. BE., (IT)  
MU122288 - Age 32. Edn. Masters. BE.,  
MU142503 - Age 40 Edn. M.Sc.,  
MU122509 - Age 36. Edn. MD., MS., (IT)  
MU112929 - Age 35. Edn. M.Sc.,  
MU112936 - Age 30. Edn. ME., M.Tech., MS

## Brides

FU322205 - Age 30, Edn. M.Pharma.Mastrs  
FU112233 - Age 29, Edn. ME., M.Tech.  
FU232338 - Age 28, Edn. B.Sc.,  
FU211009 - Age 32, Edn. BE., B.Tech. (IT)  
FU321130 - Age 36, Edn. MA., MBA.  
FU221208 - Age 32, Edn. M.Sc., Medical  
FU311427 - Age 35, Edn. MBA., PG., BE.  
FU221435 - Age 31, Edn. MD., MS.  
FU231576 - Age 29, Edn. Masters, MS.,  
FU132065 - Age 29, Edn. M.Sc.,  
FU332561 - Age 28, Edn. B.E., B.Tech.,  
FU112658 - Age 27, Edn. M.Phil / Ph.D.,  
FU122697 - Age 29, Edn. M.Sc., Computer  
FU142755 - Age 28, Edn. MD., MS.,  
FU122970 - Age 29, Edn. ME., M.Tech., MS  
FU333045 - Age 26, Edn. Degree in Medical

Their profile, photos and contacts are available at  
**Royal Christian Family**

Those willing to settle in USA after marriage  
can contact : **Royal Christian Family**,  
Tel.: +91 - 9820485389 / 9820473103

## Trust In His Will: God Truly Exists

Everything in creation is proof that God exists. So, why worry, why be depressed or, why have doubts and fear?

Have you thought about this: that before you started worrying, you had to think. There is nothing wrong with thinking, provided you know there are two types of thinking: to be positive and not negative.



Most people think negatively and are often stubborn in their ideas. Wrong thinking leads to worry, and worry to doubt, and doubt to fear, finally, fear ends with panic. What are you expected to do? It's quite simple:

There's a beautiful painting circulating the globe of Jesus Divine Mercy. If you look carefully, you will find the words: Jesus I Trust in You. That, is the answer to help you in times of worry, doubt and fear – Trust.

Trust God, believe in His Word, do not be afraid. As Jesus Divine Mercy, God has taken us one step further from the word 'Believe'. He wants us to "Trust in Him". And when you trust in the Almighty you will discover that He truly exists.

True, we can't stop worrying or feeling depressed, because we are still human. The fear factor is also a part of human nature. All this can change overnight when you make up your mind to believe in God, to trust in Him.

Remember as I said earlier, "Everything in God's creation proves that He exists." Place your trust in Him. Each one of us were born to be messengers of God, to radiate Christ in our daily living. The Word of God is multi-dimensional, spiritual and divine. The Word is indelibly inscribed in Peace, Forgiveness, Humility, Charity, Fellowship, Mercy, Sacrifice, Prayer and love.

Whatever happens in your life, learn to accept it, trusting in His Will, believing it is your Blueprint of Life, which God had given you at the moment of birth.

When someone passes away it is consoling to believe that the Blueprint has been completed. Think positively. Trust implicitly in His love. The Creator is your father and friend. When you pray, lift up your heart to Him. Turn to His Son, Jesus. Ask God in the name of His Son, Jesus and He will hear your prayer.

Free yourself from the chains of worry and fear. Pray to God, speak to the Creator, tell him your problems and should you think you are not worthy to talk to God, seek an intercessor, you could appeal to Mary, His Mother.

Like a rose, our life was also grown with thorns. Very often God puts us to the test. He tested the prophet Abraham to see if the saintly man would turn to Him. God opens doors where there were none.

The path to Almighty God is through prayer, fasting and penance. His divine mercy and forgiveness is ever present when a person repents.

Jesus Christ has prepared a place in heaven for each and every one. When you believe and trust a miracle takes place, trust me, I say this with conviction.

# Earth- Home For All!



In response to the call given by Pope Francis to care for creation in his ecological Encyclical in 2015, cardinal Oswald Gracious had taken the initiative to launch the project of making Bombay Diocese a 'Green Diocese', in the year 2018. Since September 1 is observed as the 'World Day of Prayer', the day was chosen to launch the project.

Bishop Allwyn D'silva, the auxiliary Bishop of Bombay in charge of the climate change desk at the FABC, convened a training session for representatives of Bombay parishes to help them establish a cell at parish level to contribute to this project. 'Care for creation' has taken wings and some some parish cells are flying high!

This year the theme chosen for this celebration usually held during the first few days of September, is 'Home for All'. Earth, being the home of all God's creatures, humans, the most superior of all creation need to take responsibility of protect creation! The Holy Bible has elevated man to the position of "custodian" of nature, which is a gift from God for his use, not for his abuse.

**How do we respond to this call by**

## the church?

We are aware that climate change is the greatest threat to humanity today. Humankind with its reckless management of natural resources such as land, water, forests and the abuse of other creatures is continuing to cause this ecological disaster looming large on the horizon. It has been recorded that most of earth's wild life, not only our iconic but also ordinary wild animals are struggling to survive because man hunts them down for trophies and for trade, kill them for food, destroys their habitat in the name of progress! Did the killing of chimpanzees or wild bats for food trigger off the transmission of unknown viruses to man and cause the pandemic? The recurrence of these new contagious diseases has failed to set an alarm bell that says all is not well with nature and we need to treat it with kid gloves.

Do we have the time or the inclination to give a thought to what role do these creatures play to sustain life on earth? We also ignore the fact that wild life, even the tiny insignificant bees contribute to the production of crops and make life possible on earth. The food chain that God created has been tampered with and some links are missing.



by Vera Alvares

We need to give it a serious thought!

It is indeed painful to watch the seas and oceans mercilessly exploited to garner their resources. Fishing is recklessly carried on during breeding season depleting the supply, sea life is mutilated to harvest their organs and the dirt generated by a bludgeoning population is pumped into the pristine waters. Our plans for progress do not include the tending of environment or the welfare of creatures, but our own convenience and pleasure.

The warning of Global Warming and Climate change mostly falls on deaf ears! Most of us have not heard of the UN report on climate Change being 'CODE RED' for humanity. If governments choose to ignore this and no remedial measures are taken, the natural resources we take for granted will be a distant memory very soon! It has been said, "Climate change is what you expect and weather is what you get". Heat waves, draughts, floods, melting of glaciers and dwindling rainfall are already visible in the freak weather patterns. Melting ice caps at the poles, raging forest fires, polluted seas, contaminated water bodies and disappearing jungles deprive God's creatures of their natural habitat, food sources and annihilate them! Humanity's 'Carbon Footprint' is trampling life out of existence

Responding to the threat of ecological crisis, forms an integral part of the church's Mission says Cardinal Gracious, creating awareness among his flock. Let us respond in any way we can to make earth a better place to live in and a home for all!



### DIVO Konkani Weekly

Published from Mumbai  
27th year of regular publishing  
Subscription rates:

One year by post Rs. 500  
Five years by post Rs. 2000

Contact:

Tel.: +91 9820485389 / 9820473103  
Email: secular@sezariworld.com

## Ad. Rates for Thanksgiving

|  | Colour   | B/W     |
|--|----------|---------|
| Favours granted minimum<br>i.e. 15 words + 1 block(1 photo of saint) | Rs. 800  | Rs. 500 |
| each additional block  | Rs. 400  | Rs. 300 |
| Holy Spirit Prayer   | Rs. 1000 | Rs. 700 |
| Other small prayers (upto 100 words)                                 | Rs. 1000 | Rs. 700 |

Contact: Tel.: +91 - 9820485389, 9820473103  
**THE SECULAR CITIZEN,**  
 99, Perin Nariman Street, Fort, Mumbai - 400001



Rev. Fr. Aloysius Furtado, Parish Priest of St. Dominic Savio Church blessing the banner which is displayed on the occasion of 40th Ruby Jubilee Anniversary celebrating of St. Dominic Savio at Wadala. Mumbai. Ruby Jubilee Cade is also cut as a part of the celebration.

## Thanksgiving

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be Praised Adored, Glorified and Loved today and everyday throughout the world, now and forever. Amen!!

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



—Felix Pereira, Navi Mumbai

## Inviting Proposals for CANADA Settled Indian Christian Brides & Grooms

All are well-placed and holding good positions in Canada.

Their further profile, photos and contacts are available at [Royal Christian Family](#)

Those willing to settle in Canada after marriage can contact :

**ROYAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY**

Tel.: +91 - 9820485389 / 9820473103

## Royal Christian Family

# Try our 'Gold Super Success' service

Register at Royal Christian Family and opt for 'Gold Super Success' service.

Leave your worries of finding Good Proposals to us. We take the responsibility.

Our 'Gold Super Success' service works for the best result.

For more details contact : 9820485389

### Royal Christian Family

99, Perin Nariman Street, Fort, Mumbai 400001

Tel.: +91 9820485389 / 9820473103

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

Website: <https://www.royalchristianfamily.com>