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Saturday August 20, 2022

Goans across the globe unite at World Goa Day **Californian Goans hold** picnic to mark WGD

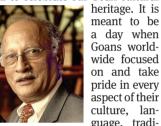
Goans across the world come together to celebrate their identity and culture as part of the World Goa Day, conceived to commemorate the inclusion of Konkani as an official language in the Indian Constitution on August 20, 1992. Goan associations and organisations conduct various offline or online events to mark World Goa Day and while some events have already been conducted, others are being planned on or after August 20. THE GLOBAL GOENKAR presents a special coverage on various events and perspectives by Goenkars around the world to celebrate World Goa Day

Proud to be Goan

RENE BARRETO

orld Goa Day is a wonderful opportunity for Goans across the world to come together, to celebrate our Goan identity and to review our accomplishments of the global Goan community.

It all began in 2000, when it was decided to dedicate a day in the vear to celebrate our Goan cultural



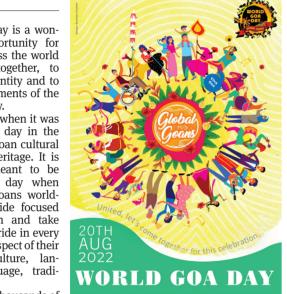
guage, traditions, arts, cuisine, etc.

It is on this day that thousands of Goans remind ourselves of the need to work to preserve our culture and heritage for our children. A day to foster solidarity among Goans all over the world.

Dreams and ambitions take hold more quickly when shared with others. World Goa Day aims to strengthen the cultural roots of Goans and to facilitate their participation in ongoing World Goa events.

We have a lot to offer the world and should not be ashamed of or shy away from our own glorious culture. We are as gifted as any other people, and we should be willing to demonstrate that pride in our actions. The theme for WGD2022 is 'Celebrating Our Global Goans'. Let World Goa Day be a beacon of light and inspiration throughout the year and for the rest of our lives. Let us make this

our motto 'Proud to be a Goan' and live up to that motto.



The World Goa Day 2022 poster designed by Sharmila Coutinho.

World Goa Day 2022 **Official Theme Song** Goa Mhojem

The Official World Goa Day 2022 theme song is 'Goa Mhojem', composed by Colin D'Cruz with lyrics by Bond Braganza and featuring Usha Uthup (vocals), Gerard Machado (guitar), Jason Quadros (piano), Colin D'Cruz (bass) and Angelo Colasco (drums). Watch 'Goa Mhojem' at: https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=yRrolYbO6pQ

(The writer is overall coordinator of World Goa Day)

Events to mark World Goa Day

AZZ GOA

>> WHEN: August 20, 8 pm >> WHERE: Jazz Goa YouTube channel: https://youtu.be/bldfyLEkKQk >> WHAT: Jazz Goa has been broad-

casting spectacular shows every year on World Goa Day. This year will be very special as the show is hosted by Padmashree Usha Uthup. Songs from her Konkani jazz album will be a part of the show.

The show features over 40 artistes, each one introduced by Usha. She professes her love for Goa and Goans right through the two-hour entertainer. Colin D'Cruz, founder of Jazz Goa along with his wife, Diana, carefully curated the show to make sure it touches Goans in Goa and around the world. Many videos are spiked with glimpses of Goa that's bound to evoke nostalgia among Goans living in other countries.

Jazz Goa's World Goa Day broadcast features Adolf Fernandes, Allan Moraes, Allan Vaz, Ana Monteiro, Andre De Souza, Angelo Colasco, Bob Tinker, Carlos Gonsalves, Clifford Siqueira, Colin D'Cruz, Cynthia Gomes, Darryl Rodrigues, Diana D'Cruz, Donna Noronha, Ernest Flanagan, Evelyno Braganza, Francisco Rodrigues, Gerard Machado, Helga Sedli, Jason Quadros, Joshua Noronha, Kris Kasper, Laura Fernandez, Lulu Fortes, Manuel Gomes, M'tafiti Imara, Mukesh Ghatwal, Prashant Mahale, Queenie Fernandes, Ruth Saldanha, Saby Fernandes, Sancho Menezes, Sandhya D'Mello, Shanice Monteiro, Shannon Fernandes, Sharon Rodrigues, Sherize Monteiro, Sonia Shirsat, Sylvia Monteiro, Tania De Souza, Tony Dias, Usha Uthup, Veeam Braganza, Velrose Pereira, Verphina Dias and Zezinho

MELBOURNE

>> WHEN: August 21, 11 am >> WHAT: Goa Day >> WHERE: Menzies Hall, Dandenong North, Victoria

>> EVENT: People are invited to come in Goan attire, carry along any Goan articles that they may have at home and join the event. The event includes a prize for the best Goan theme fancy dress, a skit and Fish Curry and Rice for lunch. Maestro Josefato Vales will provide music and will be accompanied by Alan de Menezes and Xavier Fernandes. >> CONTACT: www.goav.org.au

SYDNEY

>> WHEN: October 8, 11 am to 4.30

pm >> WHAT: World Goa Day Sydney >> WHERE: All Saints Parish Hall, Liverpool, NSW

>> EVENT: Nostalgic Konkani/English music for listening, dancing pleasure. Various stalls with Goan cuisine, Goan Mandos, Bingo and more. There will be a gold coin donation. Come and experience the Taste of Goa in Sydney - Sorpotel, Sannas, Xacuti, Pulao, Fish Curry and Rice, Prawn Balchao, Pork Vindaloo, Chouricos, Chicken Cafreal, Bibinca and Dodol. Dress code is casual.

QUEBEC

>> WHEN: August 20, 10.30 am onwards

>> WHAT: The 45th Anniversary World Goa Day Potluck Picnic >> WHERE: Parc-Nature du Cap-Saint-Jacques 20099 Boulevard Gouin Ouest Pierrefonds, QC

world over, to celebrate World Goa Day. Since its inception, the GOA has been edifying and promoting the distinctiveness and diversity of Goan culture as well as sedulously working at keeping our Mai Bhas Konkani alive. In early 2020, I was elected as the Academy's third president and together with my assiduous team, I continue to revitalise Goan culture and our beautiful mother tongue here in Pakistan. Despite the Covid pandemic, we celebrated World Goa Day in full swing in August 2020, St Francis Xavier's Feast on December 3, 2020, & 2021 and GOAFEST in July this year, where approximately 300 Goans gathered to celebrate the spirit of Goa Festival. Karachi's most talented young group of musicians came forward to play instruments for the first time with Goan classical music and songs. Solo performances by vocalists Anthony Pinto, Melanie Nazareth, Clifford Fernandes and Bella Coelho put

Members **Own Academv** take part in a programme in Karachi.

the audience into a romantic mood with their euphonious Konkani love songs. A Comedy Konkani Interview Skit

crooned by Melba Pinto and act ed by Rupert D'Costa brought smiles to people's faces. Solo songs were also sung by our young rising talent Liberatta Pinto, Duane Fernandes, while Dylan Fernandes and Miguel Nazareth entertained the crowd with theil musical skit. The musical programme continued with the 'Daring Divas', Samantha Rodrigues and team rocking the stage with their Mando dance moves. Once again, Melba Pinto along with Clifford Fernandes won the hearts of many with their humorous duo performance on stage. Finally, the group hit the stage to sing the Goan Masala Medley. On the menu was the Goan mouth-watering cuisine, Sorpotel & Sannas prepared by the women of GOA, Chicken Caldinha, Yakni Pulao, which was relished by all. Our next big event is World Goa Day which will be celebrated on October 9. We plan to take about 200 members to the Arabian Sea Country Club for a fun-filled day of Goan mu sic, dance and eats. Details on these programmes are available on the Goinkars Own Academy Karachi Facebook page.

Goans perform the traditional Kunbi (Vodekara) dance in California to he CalifornianGoans mark World Goa World Goa Day Pic-Day on Aug 8. nic 2022 at Whispering Creek Picnic Area, Don

their plates full of traditional Goan delicacies like Aad Maas, Chana Ros, Green Beef and more.

ing, Poetry, Skits etc), which

brought forth a lot of hid

den talents from all ages, as

the crowd watched on with

As the Goan Siesta time rolled in some freshly made Goan Chau, Kapa Bhoji and Patoleos were there to keep us on our toes and ready for a Goan Ring Game. It was a fun-filled day, es pecially for kids as they got not only to watch but also participate in our Goan tradition followed by a swim at the shallow beach.

Like all our events, the party did not end at the park but continued on to the returning picnic bus as some of the energetic few sang songs to the tired but happy crowd.

GOAn culture on display at WGD in Karachi

of Goinkars

PETER MENDES

IOSEPH LOURENCO

classics.

Castro Regional Park on August

8 started as a good old Goan picnic

starts, right on the picnic bus with

the picnickers singing to some picnic

The event kicked off with this year's

official WGD song 'Goa Mhojem', fol-

lowed by a Traditional Kunbi (Vodeka-

ra) dance. This was followed by a fan-

cy dress for both kids and adults and

a Patoleo and Donne-making session

where kids were taught the art of mak-

were our Open Mic (Singing, Danc-

The main attractions of the day

ing the popular Goan sweets.

he Goinkars Own Academy (GOA) in Pakistan was established in 2000 by Maurice Coutinho when Goans in Pakistan joined hands with a multitude of organisations the

World Goa Day: Uniting **Goans in Quebec**



MELISSA AND PRISCILLA FERNANDES

commemoration he of World Goa Day is the epitome of recon-

necting with our Goan brothers and sisters across the globe. A dream of the original founders of the Quebec Goan Association (QGA), this observance was ultimately immortalised as part of our calendar of events by future committees. World Goa Day has been quintessential in sharing our Goan values with our community. A potluck picnic, rain or shine, in the waning days of summer in Montreal, this event assembles the youth, family and seniors.

Beneath the QGA banner, we speak of colourful memories, singing traditional songs accompanied by talented guitarists, and tasting savoury and sweet dishes from our most talented chefs. Children are enthralled, competing in organised games, chasing each other, biking around the park, and rushing for refreshing treats placed out on tables. Everyone is relaxing in the great outdoors and socialising with friends from the city and abroad.

It is in this spirit of conviviality that we await with bated breath for the 2022 edition of the QGA's World Goa Day picnic. Scheduled on August 20, we have the pleasure of welcoming our community to the beautiful Cap-Saint-Jacques nature park and beach.

Quebec Goan All signs point to a gorgeous Association's sunny, summer day to play World Goa Day in the sand and cool off in event in 2015. the waters of the St Lawrence River.

There are games for children and families and lively music to serenade everyone during the meal. There will be delectable dishes to share and opportunities to reconnect with friends.

At every WGD for the past few years now, we have been trying to teach our members Konkani by organising Konkani quizzes/riddles etc. In 2015, we even had a small Konkani class. We also have our Konkani mandos singalong as well.

The QGA participated in the Global WGD online event in 2020 by performing a nice medley of traditional mandos and dulpods. The same year, they also performed Christmas carols in English and Konkani at the Kuswar festival.

Being the 45th anniversary of QGA this year, we will honour two members of our community who have been ambassadors for our Goan culture. We will celebrate a member who has shown kindness to individuals in the community, giving time and effort to help others. We will also acknowledge a member who has made great strides in the business/creative world to put Goans on the map. Recognising these candidates will certainly inspire others to share their skills and love for who we are as Goans.

>> MESSAGE: On World Goa Day, the Jazz Goa's World Goa broadcast ends with me urging Goans who migrated to return to Goa. I do this in my song 'Goa Going Gone.' Nothing would make me happier than seeing Goans return to our beautiful state. Colin D'Cruz Jazz Goa

SHARJAH

>> WHEN: September 25 >> WHAT: St Michael's Sharjah Goan

Community in association with the Global Goans Association will organise 'Virtual Celebrations' to commemorate World Goa Day 2022. The event will be broadcast live via Zoom. >> EVENT: Goan parishioners of St Michael's Church in Sharjah are invited to record and share video clips of their favourite instrumental pieces, songs, and skits in English, Konkani, or Portuguese. Videos will be broadcast live on the virtual platform as part of the celebrations.

>> CONTACT: shjgoancommunity@ yahoo.com

LONDON

>> WHEN: August 20, 4 pm to 11 pm

- >> WHAT: World Goa Day 2022
- >> WHERE: Hounslow Market Place >> WHO: The event is organised by Simon Rodrigues of Amigos Nite and is powered by 'Maka Tik Naka'. Rene Barreto (Founder of World Goa Day) is the chief guest while Fr Lucas Rodrigues, Chaplain to the Goan Community, Swindon, and Parish Priest of St Peter's Catholic Church & Sacred Heart Church is the guest of honour. >> EVENT: Artistes include Risma Leitao, Noywen Fernandes (one-man band), DJ Velfern, Kumbi dance performances, comedy acts by comedy King Agostino and comedy Queen Janet. London-based Goa's famous Konkani singers Tommy Afonso (Jr Nelson), Bab Andrew D'Souza, Joao De Zuari, Princewell, Nicky Carvalho, Andrea D'Souza, Aliston Bareto and Nerisa Bareto will sing Konkani songs and Joanro Gomes will play the violin. The show will be compered by Simon Varella

>> EVENT: Picnic at the beach, games and prizes. Participants are expected to bring their own chairs, plates, utensils, drinks and dishes to share.

MUMBAI

>> WHEN: August 20, 7.30 pm onwards

>> WHAT: The Goan Institute celebrations of World Goa Day >> WHERE: The ILA Hall, St Francis

Xavier Church, Dabul-Girgaum >> EVENT: World Goa Day is being celebrated for the first time by the Goan Institute Dabul, Mumbai. We have numerous programmes to entertain people of all age groups with participants from different age groups as well.

A variety of entertainment includes folk dances, youth dances, mando, youth singing, Konkani skit, spot prizes, dancing and games. As the main focus of our first World Goa Day, we will host a Goan food festival with delicious and palate-tickling food dishes like Sorpotel, Pork roast, Pav and fish thali. Entry to this event is free.

We take pride in our wonderful Goan culture, language, traditions, music and cuisine. We invite all to come enjoy our world-renowned Goan hospitality and large-heartedness. By celebrating World Goa Day and showcasing it to other Goans, we are binding with our brethren wherever they may be, giving them a glimpse of our rich legacy handed by our ancestors. Thus, touching on the theme -Celebrating Our Global Goans. Agnes Fernandes The Goan Institute

SIOLIM

biofertilisers.

>> WHEN: From August 20 to 22 between 9 am and 6.30 pm >> WHAT: 30th Annual Festival of **Plants & Flowers** >> WHERE: St Francis Xavier's School & HSS, Siolim >> EVENT: The theme is 'Vegetables from the wild' and 'Save our Soils'. Exhibition of plants, sale of plants, sale of garden implements, organic manure, plant nurseries,

WGD with Patoiachem Fest in Madkai

he Festam team organised the Patoiachem Fest in Madkai on August 15 from 11 to 3 pm to celebrate World Goa Day, Independence Day, Our Lady of Assumption, Konkani Day, Ghumtacho Nach and Goenchem Jevonn.

Curated by Goa's Festakar Marius Fernandes and Gwendolyn de Ornelas, the festival featured Konkani skits, Ghumot workshop, cultural programme, workshops, demonstrations and zero waste fest.

The festival also supported the government in the drive to eliminate single-use plastic and to highlight the economic empowerment of communities, especially Goan vouth.

The main aim of the festivals is to bind communities, exchange ideas at the grassroots and revive everything Goan.







Goan Chaplaincy marks Our Lady feast, I-Day in London

The Feast Mass was in Konkani, which was celebrated by Fr Patrick D'Souza and Fr Feroz Fernandes, and was attended by around 800 Goans. On the occasion, many Indian flags were distributed to the Goan community at the Mass



(L to R) Ravi Vaz, Floyd Dias, Fr Patrick Dsouza, Fr Feroz Fernandes, Clayton Barreto and Karthik Madabushi

THE GLOBAL GOAN I NETWORK

LONDON he Goan Chaplaincy UK Γ brought the Goan community in Wembley and around London together on August 15 Assumption of Mother Mary at the St Joseph's RC Church in Wembley London.

This year's celebration of the Feast of the Assumption of Mother Mary was organised by the Goa Chaplaincy and it coincided with India's 75th Independence Day celebrations.

The Feast Mass was in Konkani, which was celebrated by Fr Patrick D'Souza and Fr Feroz Fernandes, and was attended by around 800 Goans.

Speaking to The Global Goenkar, Fr Patrick, a member of the Society of Pilar and the Goan Chaplaincy UK appreciated the participation of the Goan community in these celebrations.

"Our faith has brought the Goan community and different Goan associations together. We should all work together" said Fr Patrick, in his address to the community after the Mass.

The event received the support of Ravi Vaz (President of Goan Asso-ciation UK), Floyd Dias Do Rosario (Director of United Goans Affiliation UK Ltd) and Clayton Antonio Barreto (Senior Officer - Indian High Commission, London).

On the occasion, many Indian flags were distributed to the Goan community at the Mass, while the Goan As-



community celebrate the Feast

of the Assumption of

sociation UK supported the event with refreshments after the Church services

To mark the two occa-Joseph's RC Church in sions there was a draw-Wembley London. ing competition organised for children of different age groups. The children submitted their drawings to the organisers when they arrived at the Church and the re-

sults were declared after Mass. In the 4-6 year category, the prize winners were Adele Albuquerque (first), Ninoshka Da Cruz (second) and

Cheryl Fernandes (third). In the 7-9 year category, the prize winners were Greshon Fernandes (first). Alicia Fernandes (second) and Ethan Antonio Barreto (third). Lionel Albuquerque won the prize in the 10-12 year category.

Speaking on the occasion, Domnic Cardoz from Wembley said, "It Mother Mary and India's was a nice festive feel-Independence Day at St ing to see our Goan Community coming together celebrating the feast of Our Lady of Assumption and celebrating India's 75th Independence day. It was indeed a very patriotic feeling." The Goans felt the pride of holding the Indian flag and being connected with it.

The Goan community thanked the Goan Chaplain, Fr Patrick, and the Society of Pilar for reaching out to the Goan community in the UK. The community members also thanked Clayton Barreto for his continued service to the Goan Diaspora in the UK and for reaching out to the Goans in need

How Minguel Rod set the stage for tiatrs in Canada

e died in 1955 at the young

age of 31, writing, directing and presenting 32 tiatrs

besides singing over 300 songs some of which like

'500 Maddanchi Son'nnam' of the fa-

mous 'Novoch Ga Tarvotti' song is still

our all-time favourite. The death of this

tiatrist was a blow to the entire Konka-

ni world with the Emisora de Goa, now

All India Radio of the Prasar Bharati

broadcasting a running commentary

about the funeral procession by Allen

Costa, with his songs played as a tribute for two hours, a rare honour given to a tiatrist. Eternal life begins after



MICHAEL JUDE GRACIAS >The writer is tiatr researcher and an acclaimed Konkani script writer, director and actor

Minguel Rod's tiatrs



1947 (before and after) Goan Musicians and Bands

he partition in 1947 was tumultuous, everyone was in a state of jubilation, as well as uncertainty. Goans were at the crossroads but were confident of their future because by then they had lived in Karachi for almost a century! Being well-settled, economically, and socially, most opted to become naturalised citizens of the new country, while some moved back to their roots in Goa.



Of the numerous things Goans were involved in at that point in time of our history, was their love for music and stage! From as early as the start of the 20th century when they first performed 'The Mikado' (a 2-act Gilbert & Sullivan opera) in 1916 with music by J Vincent Lobo, and repeat

MENIN RODRIGUES >The writer is a Toronto-based communications consultant, Karachi Goan community/city historian and author

performances in the 1940s, along with other stage classics like The Gondoliers (music by Charles Lobo) and Pirate of Penzance (music by Terence D'Souza); Goan musicians, stage artistes, and bands were at their best!

In the swinging 1930s and 40s, Goan jazz bands/musicians proved their mettle by entertaining the fun-loving people of Karachi. "The best dance band in Karachi in the 1930s was that of brothers Mickey (sax ophone) and Alex (drums) Correa; I would endeavour to attend every monthly dance at the KGA to hear them," writes Karachi-boy Eric A Vas in his memoir; he went on to serve in the armed forces of India. Mick ey moved to Mumbai in 1936 to join All-India Radio to become India's most celebrated Jazz bandleader. His band, 'The Optimists' played at The Taj for twenty-one (1939-60) consecutive years! The city boasted some of the best nightclubs in the region where

world-class entertainers performed frequently. Great jazz legends like Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Charlie Byrd, Benny Carter, Quincy Jones (who gave Michael Jackson that memorable beat, 'Billie Jean') all came to Karachi and played alongside Goan maestros. Two other popular jazz bands were the 'Janu Vaz Band' and the 'Felix Carvalho Trio' (Father and sons, Chris and Tony).

The 1950s and 60s saw the emergence of numerous Goan bands everywhere, in the hotels, private clubs, nightclubs and top-end par ties in diplomatic enclaves. Goan musicians were also seen playing at night-club scenes in motion picture productions. Newspapers pub lished ads showing hotels and nightclubs promoting glamorous New Year/Christmas parties and floor shows, featuring Goan bands! In the book, 'Karachi, the megacity of our times' authors Khuhru and Mooraj write, "In the 1950s, one of the notable pianists was FX Fernandes, a pi ano teacher by day and leader of a combo by night..." On June 8, 1964 The Beatles' too stopped by in Karachi, only to be stormed by a bevy of screaming teenagers at the airport.

The following two decades (1970s and 80s) eventually took the beat out of Goan musicians. Though our bands were popular, it was the be ginning of the end for our bands, as they faded away with the signs of the times. Among those individuals who continued to provide back up support to crooners, orchestras, and TV shows were musicians like saxophonists Don Gonsalves, Alex Rodrigues, Norbert Furtado and drummer-boy Richie D'Souza. His father Flt-Lt Rudy D'Souza was the Director of the combined military band in the 1950s/60s.

Two musicians with Goan roots, the veteran Norman D'Souza, and the versatile drummer Louis (Gumby) Pinto, are celebrity musicians in the country today. Recently, a biopic on the struggles of a Goan musician in the 1980s was made encapsulating the life of Norman. To cut a long story short, Goan musicians pioneered the beginnings of jazz and popular bands in Karachi, inspiring a new genre of bands and musi cians in the country.

Next: Goan Excellence in Sports!

cultivated the tiatr culture in Canada which has grown into a beautiful fruitbearing tree. As in Goa, the Covid pandemic put a full stop on tiatr activities in Canada. The Konkani-speaking diaspora awaits the staging of a new tiatr now that the restrictions imposed post-Covid have been lifted

death and this great artiste found him self resurrected in a faraway land, Canada, 21 years after his death through a masterpiece of his work. Richard Fernandes brought to life the legendary tiatrist Minguel Rod, by staging his tiatr 'Irmaum-achem Cazar' which was directed and produced by him.

Silviano Barbosa, a noted writer belonging to a tiatrist family, who witnessed this tiatr says: "I was present for this First Tiatr in Canada. The Tiatr performance was good considering it was held in Canada with a few Goans around with a nominal theatrical experience. In this tiatr, a real-life Goan Priest performed the 'Kazar' on stage". Richard evaluated the organising of this first tiatr. He weighed the pros and cons, the ups and downs, the strengths and weaknesses, the do's and don'ts; but overall the job satisfaction received by the director and actors. The tiatr received a good response from the people gathered and buoyed by the success of the tiatr penned by Minguel Rod, the following year another tiatr, 'Ghorachem Kestaum' written by Minguel Rod, was directed and produced by Richard Fernandes in 1977.

By this time a sizable group of Goans who were expatriates from East Africa had settled in Canada. The two tiatrs presented touched their hearts and some of these expatriates Frank



D'Souza and his daughters Margaret and Delphine, Braz D'Cruz Frank Fernandes and Zulema D'Souza joined hands with Richard Fernandes and formed the group that was called The Goan Theatrical Group (GTG). Margaret D'Souza wrote the script in English which was then translated into Konkani and presented as a tiatr on the stage for the entertainment of the Konkani populace settled in Toronto, Canada. This group had a long run and presented their own creations for around two decades. Alzirachem Sopon (1978); produced by Lina Remedios, Divors Matarponnar (1980); directed by Frank De Souza, Tegui Bailo, (1981); directed by Frank De Souza, Kalljidar Bhoinn (1982); directed by Frank De Souza, Peleachi Nosai (1983); directed by Errol Francis, Gupit Mog (1984); translated by Lynn Souza Marques and written & directed by Margaret De Souza, Atancho Teomp (1986); directed by Margaret De Souza, Konn Mhozo Pai (1987); translated by Maggie Francis and written & directed by Margaret De Souza, Ojeapanchi Bhett (1988); translated by Frank De Souza and written & directed by Margaret De Souza, Rateor (1990); translated by Frank De Souza and written & directed by Margaret De Souza, Doria Amchem Noxib (1995); translated by Maggie Francis and written & directed by Margaret De Souza were the tiatrs produced and presented by The Goan Theatrical Group.

Richard Fernandes promoted another group The Goan Konkani Troupe in 1989. This group consisted of Goans who migrated to Canada from Goa and Mumbai and some Goan expatriates from the Gulf. This group of Goans were rooted in Konkani and had hands-on experience with Goan tiatr having acted in tiatrs staged at the annual feasts of the chapel or church in their locality. Having witnessed and even acted in tiatrs, this group was conversant in the language and hence their presentations went a notch higher. The Goan Konkani Troupe even presented a tiatr in New Jersey.

The Goan Konkani Troupe presented Familichem Nissontton (1989) Adeus (1990); written & directed by Jr Menezes, Ekuch Rosto, (1991); written by M

Boyer and directed by Jr Menezes, Adlea Tempar (1992); directed by Jr Menezes, Guntter (1994); directed by Jr Menezes, Budhvont (1996); written by Roseferns and directed by Jr Menezes, Adim Tem Atam Hem (1997); written by M Boyer and directed by Jr Menezes, Rinnkari (1998); directed by Jr Menezes, Bhurguim ani Bhangar (2000); directed by Jr Menezes. The Goan Konkani Group was later dissolved on March 15, 2006.

The other tiatrs presented in Toronto are: Amche Dolle (1999); directed by Marshal Fernandes, Kidd (2006); directed by Marshal Fernandes, Adeus (2007/2008); written & directed by Jr Menezes, Chuk Konnachi (2009) directed by Jr Menezes, Dukh (2010) directed by Jr Menezes, Kumsar (2011) written by Pascoal Rodrigues and directed by Joe Vaz, Jit(2013); written by Adolf Silveira and directed by Joe Vaz, To Teomp Uronk Nam (2013); directed by Jr Menezes, Gharachem Sukh (2014); written by Remmie Colaco and directed by Marshal Fernandes, Kochro (2015) written by Francis Furtado and directed by Joe Vaz, Sun (2016), directed by Marshal Fernandes, Anik Upai Naslo (2017) directed by Jr Menezes, Hem Assa Tem (2019) written by Anthony de Nuvem and directed by Marshal Fernandes.

Superintendent of Police, Sammy Tavares was the first Goan tiatrist to fly to Toronto, Canada to stage his tiatr with a Goan professional cast. SP Sammy Tavares staged Police Officer in 2017 and Bhurguim Kiteak Somzonam in 2019

Minguel Rod's tiatrs cultivated the tiatr culture in Canada which has grown into a beautiful fruit-bearing tree. As in Goa, the Covid pandemic put a full stop on tiatr activities in Canada. The Konkani-speaking diaspora now awaits the staging of a new tiatr now that the restrictions imposed post-Covid have been lifted.

Scripts of the tiatrs written by Minguel Rod are not available for study or research. It will be a great service to tiatr if any artiste having these scripts, gives them to us for preservation for posterity. This article is penned with inputs received from my friend Silviano Barbosa, with sincere thanks and gratitude to him.

Paedophile's sentence reduced after 'mistake in law'

judge in Swindon has reduced a paedophile's sentence after admitting a 'mistake in law', stated a report in the Swindon Advertiser (UK).

Trevor Fernandes was jailed for 14 years, with an extended licence period of five years, on Thursday after he blackmailed a teenager to act as his sex slave.

The report stated that Judge Jason Taylor QC quickly realised he "made a mistake in law in the constitution of my sentence." It means Fernandes would not become entitled to be released two-thirds of the way through the custodial element. The judge announced he would reconstitute the sentence so the maximum sentence was not exceeded. It means that the overall effect of the sentence remains the same; Fernandes was given a 14-year custodial sentence and a five-year extended licence, the Swindon Advertiser report stated.

Goan vocalist to perform at Vegfest in Canada

tephanie Braganza, a powerhouse vocalist whose performances helped her win a Toronto Independent Music Award for Best Live Artist, will perform at the inaugural Vegfest on August 20,



according to a report in Insauga (Canada). The report states that Stephanie has performed in a wide array of settings through out her career, including a private event at the Art Gallery of Ontario which was attended by former president George W Bush, and at the MuchMusic Video Awards.

An outspoken animal rights activist, her latest music video Chains of Silence has won Global Music awards for Best Female Vocalist and Best Music Video, and has received support from Tony Kanal (No Doubt) and PETA.

Goan offers rare dishes in Liverpool

ince 2019, Kalash Divine Indian, an intimate two-roomed restaurant, has been serving the people of Southport food from the Indian subcontinent unfamiliar with the majority of the British

public, states a report in the Liverpool Echo.

Familiar British Indian favourites include chicken tikka masala and vindaloo are nowhere to be seen. Instead, customers will find dishes such as Barrah Champ, Malabari Prawn, and Palak Bhutta Khumb

According to the Liverpool Echo, owner and proprietor Ranjeet Singh runs the restaurant with friend and business partner Alvino Cardozo. Ranjeet hails from Delhi and Alvino is from Goa. Both moved to England in the early 2000s and worked in hospitality before setting out to open their dream restaurant with the aim of re-educating the British pallet about the "wonders" of Indian food.

"Some of the dishes on our menu are homegrown recipes that our mothers and grandmas used to cook. They are recipes that we have grown up eating and it is that sort of food that anybody can appreciate and love," Ranjeet said.

[News Courtesy: The Goan Voice, www.goanvoice.org.uk]