



# CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH KANARA

Founded in 1914

(Regn. No. MNG/130/2015-17)

## CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH KANARA

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**"Mangalore" Edited & Published by Patricia Lobo for  
the Catholic Association of South Kanara**

RNI No - 3699/57; Regn. No. MNG/130/2015-17;

Printed at Assisi Press, Mangalore

Posted at Mangalore RMS on 11-02-2016



## EDITORIAL

This year we observe Ash Wednesday on February 10, 2016..... The day marks the beginning of the six and a half weeks of repentance, fast and abstinence in preparation for the most important Christian festival - Easter.

Ash Wednesday or the “Day of Ashes” is the first day of Lent when Christians follow a ritual - rubbing ashes on one’s forehead in the sign of a cross. Since it is exactly 40 days (excluding Sundays) before Easter Sunday, it will always fall on a Wednesday.

Lent is intended to be a time of self-denial, moderation, fasting, and the forsaking of sinful activities and habits. Ash Wednesday commences this period of spiritual discipline.

So often this thought comes to our minds.... I want my life to be different.... But I don’t know where to start? The time is now....

**The ‘Mangalore’ magazine has silently entered the 90<sup>th</sup> Year of its uninterrupted publication!** The first issue was brought out in **July 1927**, so we will wait for July for the formal celebration. I was recently in Bangalore attending a function and was overwhelmed by the compliments received on ‘**Mangalore**’. Several people said that they eagerly await the arrival of the magazine! I place on record my grateful thanks to the Editorial team – Joan Lobo, Zozimus Pais and Dr Anand Pereira and to all our regular contributors – Veronica Shearer, Dreamcatcher, Joan Lobo, John Monteiro, Fr Cedric Prakash, Norbert Shenoy, Anand & Geeta Pereira, Sanchita Lobo, Flavia Agnes and our regular advertisers – Vivek Aranha of the Rosary Education Group-Pune and Dr Errol Pinto & Brothers of Rosedale Associates-Mangalore. We also thank the families who have part-sponsored the magazine, thereby supporting us. There are many others who have enriched the magazine through their articles and life stories. To all of you – a sincere Thank You.

CASK President Capt John Prasad Menezes and First Lady Sunita had the rare privilege of an audience with Her Royal Highness Princess Anne at the ‘Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols’ in aid of the Mission

to Seafarers held at London on 9th December 2015. Princess Ann is the President of the Mission. Capt Menezes was the reader of Lesson 3 of the Nine Lessons held at St Michael Paternoster Church. Congratulations John Prasad and Sunita. The photographs and write-up are separately given.

We in Mangalore have had a gala time starting December 1st and the show is still going on ending with First Holy Communions. All of us living here have loved meeting people, sharing, dressing up, wishing and blessing couples and congratulating couples celebrating their Silver, Ruby or Golden Wedding Anniversaries. A good friend who came from USA said that on her visit to Mangalore this time which was only for 48 hours, she met 80 cousins and relations! How wonderful this bonding must have been. This can happen only in Wonderful Kodial, Kudla, Mangaluru or Mangalore!!

True Bonding is not measured  
by time spent together or the  
favors done for each other.  
But by the comfort you find  
when you realize you have  
each other.

- Unknown

In short THIS IS MANGALORE where family and friends bond and enjoy each others company. Come visit as often as you can. Mangalore awaits you.

Let's believe that 2016 will be a great year for all of us and that even better things are on their way.

**Until next time.....Patsy Lobo**

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## THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS



### On Succession Planning, Talent Building And Steering The Course Ahead

On January 23, 2016, CASK shifted its furniture and all the old issues of 'Mangalore' from Catholic Centre to our Pio Mall new premises and surrendered the old premises. CASK is grateful to the Gentlemen's Sodality for leasing out their premises for a nominal rent for many decades.

CASK has grown through the years, celebrated its centenary and now has its own roof over its head.

It is nearly 18 months since our present team is at the helm. We had set our plans and targets during the centenary and post-centenary years. I am now sounding the bugle to invite the next generation (Gen Y) to be roped into the Governing Council and the Committees. Many of us have the talent but the time has been the constraint. Yet, it can be managed. Almighty has granted all of us 24 hours a day and it is for us to manage how we play our part. Succession planning in any association is key for growth and progress. Talent has to be identified, nurtured and groomed. You can organise your schedule for the next six months so that you can give the next two years as a Governing Council member of CASK. We have limited slots to offer and the final choice is made by members at the AGM.

**Quo Vadis caskmangalore.org?** It has been a little over 2 years since we launched our own website-caskmangalore.org. Since then it has been trying to find its way to its prospective audience. While shifting volumes of 'Mangalore' from 1927 from Catholic Centre it occurred to me how the scene was in yester-years. 'Mangalore' reached many parishes which had no bulletins or websites and depended on the CASK publication to project their major news. Today the scene is different. The Mangalorean Catholic Community is spread across all corners of the globe. The postal services are diminishing and becoming expensive too. We need to pass on the tradition, language and culture of our community. While our Mangalore Magazine is well set (financially too) under the able editorship of Patsy Lobo, our website is groping its way to find suitable content. There is a need to anticipate the expectations of our potential readers and viewers. We need your response and support. Before laying down office it is our wish that our website increases its 'hit' numbers. So far the website has been run on voluntary services -

thanks Mr John Monteiro, Editorial Consultant, and Mr Anand Bhandarkar of Tiger Den Solutions. Do help us with your advertisements and sponsorships so that the operational and cost angles of our website are covered. Digitalization of all the old issues of Mangalore was one centenary project that we deferred due to budget constraints. Visit our website and give us your feedback. A good website is our marketing tool. Mangalore Magazine may have to go Digital in years to come?

Last week of January 2016 yours truly got an offer to visit Kolkata. I availed of the opportunity with the intention to visit Blessed Mother Theresa's Tomb. I wanted to experience the place before Mother's canonization in September 2016. The Missionary of Charity's headquarters are located on Ripon Street. Where Blessed Mother Theresa is interred was a simple novitiate hall before. In the hall adjacent to the tomb there was a Mass in Malayalam in progress with about 30 attendees. The altar had one crucifix with the caption 'I thirst'. On the tomb were the words 'Love one another, as I have loved you' (John 15,12). It is then and there I figured the inner meaning of the words 'I thirst'. All along I had taken the physical aspect of 'I thirst'. Mother's room which I visited next, was 8 x 10 ft in dimension, located on the first floor above the kitchen. It had one bed, one window, table, chair and a small cupboard - besides a 4x2 table and 3-seater bench for the visitors. Mother occupied this room without a fan from 1950 to 1997. It was an eye-opening, meaningful and fulfilling experience of sainthood.

Ash Wednesday approaching, Pope Francis has given us guidance for lent. What we should give up this year? The Holy Father has highlighted that we ought to fast from indifference towards others. In his annual Lenten message, the Pope writes 'indifference to our neighbour and to God also represents a real temptation for us Christians'. Each year during lent we need to hear once more the voice of the prophets who cry out and trouble our conscience. The Pope in his message to new Cardinals has stressed to Practice Compassion, 'Be open to all'. For us, the faithful laity, a fast to change our heart is needed. Let us try to be good human beings.

A lot is happening on the political, social, economic and cultural front in our country. However, I wanted to get the message across on succession planning and talent building of CASK for the coming decade. Caring and trusting people are paramount qualities to a value-driven association like ours for an easier path to long term success. We need to strategically plan, strike and maintain this balance as core of our beliefs. Jai Hind.

*John Prasad Menezes*

## CHRISTMAS HOMILY 24-12-2015

*Fr Leo D'Souza, Former Principal, St Aloysius College*

The term tolerance is being used very often these days in our print and electronic media. “Are we tolerant?” is the question asked in private and public forums. To answer this question, we must first understand the real meaning of this word which depends on circumstances in which it is used. It can have a negative implication-I do not like someone, for example a troublesome neighbor but I tolerate him, put up with him, for the sake of peace, because I want to avoid more trouble. On the other hand the term can have a positive implication, to accept, to respect. There was a little girl struggling to carry a rather plump child on her hip. Some one asked her whether the child was not too heavy for her to carry. “Oh no” she replied with a smile, “he is my brother”. Because he is my brother, because he is someone I love, he is not a burden. I accept him with joy.

Tolerance is the essence of Christmas. Jesus accepts us as brothers and sisters. Jesus came as a fellow human being like unto us in all things but sin. But when ‘he came unto his own his own received him not’ says John in his Gospel with a note of sorrow. There was not even a proper place for him to be born. He does not get angry at this rejection because his love is greater than all we can ever do to him. Because he came as a brother.

‘Unto us a brother’. He accepted everyone who came to the crib with the same welcoming smile - the shepherds and the kings. He accepts them all as they are. It is not merely as a guileless baby that he shows this tolerance. It matures as he grows. He deigns to learn from his foster father and to be subject to his parents. His tolerance and forbearance is seen in how he deals with his apostles. The Almighty and All wise God chooses ordinary illiterate fishermen to be his companions.

He accepts not only the good people but also the sinners. We know the story of the prodigal son. We know of the tolerance shown to the woman caught in adultery. We know of his political tolerance “return to Caesar what is of Caesar”. And his religious tolerance - he does not condemn people who find his doctrine difficult and do not walk with

him any more. 'Do you also want to go away' is his only reaction to his apostles. Implying that they too are free to go away if they chose to do so. It is the same question he asks of each one of us as we stand at the crib. 'Do you want to take me and my message with you or do you just want to go away'?

Tolerance begins in the family with acceptance of each other. It starts when the parents, father, mother stop saying "but what about my authority". When the husband and father behaves like the lord and master who has only to order and has to be obeyed - let him remember the words of the Lord who said "I have come not to be served but to serve" and did not hesitate to go down on his knees to wash the feet of his disciples. Being a parent is not only a privilege but it is a duty towards people of the coming generation. It is a service done to humanity. An Arab proverb says 'When your children are grown up, accept them and treat them - for what they are - grown ups- with a mind of their own, with plans for their own life. And if the children feel that the old man is old not only in age but also in ideas and start yelling "You treat me like a child" let them see the child Jesus who was subject to Joseph and Mary and learnt from them - the all wise God learning from a creature!

Pope Benedict made a shocking statement, some years ago during his visit to South America, that we have to ask pardon for the injustices done in the name of Christianity to the indigenous people. Christianity was not at fault but people who bore the name of Christians have been intolerant, have condemned others, persecuted others all in the name of religion. It was done with a conviction and it is not any one's intention to condemn these people who acted in good faith. But looking back, we have to acknowledge and ask pardon for this corporate fault. More recently Pope Francis during his visit to the Republic of Central Africa visited the Grand Mosque there and pleaded for an end to hostilities as Christians and Moslems are brothers. Instead of looking at our differences which are mainly doctrinal, let us see what binds us together. What we can do together.

The burning issues of today need the cooperation of men and women of goodwill. We know of differences of opinion with regard to the

Yettinahole project and nearer home to the widening of the Fr Muller's road. We don't solve problems by destroying property or breaking each other's heads. We need development but it should not lead to the destruction of the environment. The environmentalists must also accept that we cannot go back to life as it was lived centuries ago. Let us sit down and talk, united in a common cause.

There is a children's Christmas story with a message for all of us. Christmas choirs all over the world start practicing a few weeks before Christmas. It is said that a special choir of angels goes out each year singing the old message "peace to men of good will". When the angels started practicing, one of them - the lead singer broke into tears and said loudly that he did not want to sing. "We sing peace to men of good will but is there really peace among men? Look at Syria, look at Kashmir and look at Mangalore. How can we honestly sing Peace on earth"? The other small angels all agreed and also refused to sing. The matter was serious as without them the choir just would not be a choir. A senior angel called the leader and told him "Look you are right. There are few or no people of goodwill out there. That is why we have to sing and remind them to try to become men of good will"

May our celebration of Christmas today make us Men and Women of good will - to accept one another as he accepted each one of us.

## **THE USES OF LEMON GRASS**

- \* Kills cancer cells
- \* Lowers Blood Pressure
- \* Controls Fever, Flu and cold
- \* Helps Digestion
- \* Reduces Stress
- \* Controls Gout
- \* Prevents Diarrhea
- \* Helps to lose Weight
- \* Has Anti bacterial and antifungal effect
- \* Cleans the kidney, liver and bladder
- \* Acts as a Pain killer

**Three cheers to the Thai cuisine!**



## **JUSTICE DIONYSIUS NORONHA BIRTH CENTENARY REMEMBRANCE**

Our father, Dionysius Noronha, would have been one hundred years old this year. His centenary birth anniversary has inspired us, his children, to reflect on his life and times, and honour the memory of a remarkable man and father.

Dionysius Alexis Peter Noronha was born on Feb 8, 1915, in Mangalore to Sylvester and Juliana Noronha, a prominent family in social and industrial circles of South Kanara. At a time when Konkani Catholics were establishing themselves in the community, Sylvester built a solid reputation as a tile manufacturer, philanthropist and skilled musician, who with his family was very involved in parish activities at Rosario Church in Bolar. Dionysius was the eldest of their three children. He had his early education in parochial schools and the renowned St. Aloysius College in Mangalore and his higher education in Madras. Dionysius had a brilliant academic record, securing a first class in the B.A. Degree examination and a high rank in the B.L Degree examination of Madras University. He stood first in the Madras Presidency in the examination on "The Law of Practice and Procedure." He was enrolled as an Advocate of the Madras High Court in 1938, while commencing practice in the leading law firm of John and Row. He was appointed as Munsiff in the Madras Judicial Service in 1942 when he was only 27 years old, one of the youngest to do so. When the scheme of separation of the judiciary from the executive was implemented in Madras State, he was appointed as Judicial District Magistrate, stationed in South Kanara, Raichur and Bangalore. On the re-organization of States, he remained in the new State of Mysore. In 1959, he was promoted as District and Sessions Judge, in which capacity he served over the next few years in Belgaum, Karwar, Bijapur and Bangalore. In 1966, he was appointed as the Deputy Director of the Vigilance Commission, when it was first started in the the state. His work in that office brought him due recognition in polity and press for outstanding judgements and integrity.

A Historic Achievement - State and Konkani history have recorded



***Chief Justice Somnath Iyer swearing  
in the new High Court Judge -  
Dionysius Noronha - December, 1969***

that Dionysius Noronha was the first ever Mangalorean Catholic to be appointed as a High Court Judge of Karnataka, and among the first to any High Court in India. Being named to the High Court in 1969 was the crowning achievement of an illustrious career. It was a reward for a life of hard work, intellectual and professional

achievement, and playing by the rules. To us his family, we saw it as the best way to honour a professional life par excellence of decency, humility, wisdom and above all, honesty. In an address on the occasion of his retirement from the now-named Karnataka High Court in 1977, the Advocate General paid him an eloquent and heartfelt tribute, noting among other things that "you have passed the test with absolute fairness, impartiality and integrity". He also noted "that you were among the gentlest of the judges I have known, been an embodiment of true culture, courtesy, humility and respect for the the other man's point of view." He added that our father was particularly kind and encouraging to junior colleagues appearing with or before him, while always maintaining a fine sense of humor. Tributes that poured in at the time of Dad's appointment and then on his retirement, lauded his many outstanding character traits, emphatically his honesty. Justice Dionysius Noronha lived for only a few months after his retirement. In honouring his life, the Advocate General in his eulogy, yet again lauded Dionysius' professionalism, temperament, unassuming manners and sincere belief in "the essential tenets of Christianity." Upon his death, we learned of incidents where despite intense pressure from politicians and sycophants, he refused to waver from his moral and ethical opinions and actions and rendered a totally unbiased judgement. On his death in April 1977, obituary notices in a variety of local and national newspapers paid

glowing tributes to the life and career of Justice Dionysius Noronha.



***Dionysius Noronha weds  
Beatrix Noronha,  
September 15, 1943***

Dad, the Family Man - Dionysius married his beloved Beatrix (Trixie) Noronha in 1943. The incomparable Trixie was the daughter of the distinguished Charles and Doris Noronha of Bangalore. Diony and Trixie had six children - Ivan, Doris, Peter, Rita, Joseph and Stephen. As Dad's job required frequent transfers, we moved with mom and him to a great many places - Coimbatore, Mangalore, Raichur, Belgaum, Bijapur, Karwar and finally Bangalore. From each of these cities, he would visit a number of smaller towns on judicial duty, and so, we too tagged along. No matter the duration of residence in any of these cities, our home was open to anyone, quickly becoming a fulcrum point for family, friends and neighbors.

Mom and Dad had this magnetic charm, genuine warmth, infinite grace and seemingly endless energy. It did not take very long for them to become the popular and loved couple in town. Our beloved home in Bangalore - "Devadan" - was on everybody's map. It was the location of a number of family weddings and other major social events, a boarding place for many and always a haven to come to if you needed something. It was truly as the name Devadan translates, "God's Gift" to everybody.





***Diony and Trixie with the  
six Noronha children -  
taken at Devadan,  
Bangalore - 1968***

As children, we would hear many stories of dad from our grandparents, his siblings and others. It was clear that we had a very special and outstanding father. We learned of artistic creative skills, his love of language and history, his sporting talents and his many stellar academic achievements. We knew too, that he was actively involved in community organizations and local clubs - serving as a passionate volunteer, always willing to take on responsibilities and indulging in planning and managerial details. What we did not learn, we saw for ourselves that our dad was a fun loving person with

an enthusiastic, kind and gregarious personality. He was the jovial and affectionate "uncle" to many, drawing people to him - a natural leader, mentor and guide. We saw the respect, affection and admiration, his family, friends and colleagues had for him. He loved music and song, and would take the lead in singing at parties small and large. Impeccable in the use of the English language, he loved reciting poetry and had many a favorite quote and sayings. He was versatile in three other languages: Konkani, Kannada and Tulu. Dad was a skilled orator and, not surprisingly, he was a much sought after speaker for a variety of public events and a toastmaster extraordinaire at many local weddings. A talented athlete, he was an avid cricket and tennis player in his prime and proved his prowess on the playing field. In later years Dad continued to be an active participant in sporting activity, and enjoyed organizing endless contests, cricket and otherwise. He considered himself a "champion" carrom player too. One memory that lingers is accompanying him to Lighthouse Hill in Mangalore, to watch him play tennis with friends. Dad did look nifty in his whites!

Dad was a proud and loving father, always supportive, encouraging and delighting in our every achievement, big or small. He was our teacher and coach, who brought out the the best in us, gently pushing us to

excel. We are truly fortunate to have had a mother and father who were so wise, patient and perfect role models. Dad loved social events, and even in later years when he was preoccupied by mounting judicial work, he would take time to join in gatherings at home or elsewhere. Dad had favourite musical pieces and every now and then, he would get on the piano and drift into reveries of select hymns and tunes. Like his father, Dad too loved going on drives in the much maligned and perpetually overloaded family car, stopping along the way at local eateries and what to us were iconic places. There would be "surprise" stops at friends' houses, shops, etc. He took delight in impromptu trips but also in punctiliously planned events. Life, it seems, was one continuing adventure for him. It is no surprise that we his children have that same love of gatherings and adventure.

Dionysius was also the ever caring and loyal patriarch of the family. He was called on to oversee the running of the family home Julie Bagh, after his father had a stroke, and then became the elder statesman, after the deaths of our grandparents. Mom's parents died prematurely, so Dad took on the responsibility of being father to her six siblings too. Dad had one sister Melanie, who married Dr. Oswald Vaz, who would later be awarded a Knighthood of St. Gregory for his services to the church and the poor in Madras. Dad's brother Malcolm had a brilliant career in the Railways, but chose to return to Julie Bagh and Mangalore, where he made his mark in business and architecture. The two brothers were incredibly close and as our amazing Aunt Rene writes, "Diony would say of him and Malcolm, " We're two bodies but one soul", and so they were. Malcolm could do no wrong. A gem of a person and God's gift to the Noronha family - that was Diony". Uncle Malcolm and Aunt Rene and their seven kids are well known and loved in Mangalore, where Aunty and three of their children still reside. Mom's siblings - Elsie, Tony, Betty, Cecil, Flavy and Vivian, their spouses and children were also recipients of Dad's love and generosity. Family ties built and nurtured by our parents remain as strong as ever with our generation.

Our uncle Cecil Noronha, himself a prominent and respected figure in the community, has paid ardent tribute to our father. "Diony had a



***Dionysius was Chief Guest at numerous events, and was a popular and acclaimed speaker***

brilliant mind and was very well-read and up to date not only in all matters of professional legal interest but in the world of poetry and prose. He once told me that two of the most eminent writers in the English language in his estimation were Winston Churchill and Jawaharlal Nehru, and it

was this opinion that inspired me in my later days to read Churchill's History of the Second World War and Nehru's Discovery of India both of which amply validated his approbation. He would also often quote from Churchill's speeches -the most memorable being the tribute to the British Royal Air Force [RAF] after the Battle of Britain that 'never in the field of human endeavor had so many owed so much to so few'. Diony himself was a very pithy and witty public speaker and displayed a very nice turn of phrase in his letters and conversations. "The great love of his life was of course wife Trixie who shared his outgoing nature, ever-generous spirit, and openness to people and friendships. Their home no matter where-- in the districts or in the city of Bangalore- - was always open to all and sundry, and the good friends that the two of them together made and kept are legion."

Above all, Dionysius was a simple and honest man, who trusted people to the core and was generosity personified. We, his children, remember Dad with love, respect and awe. He left behind doting family members and legions of friends, but most importantly, an impeccable reputation for fairness and justice. Mom and he would be proud of the many personal and professional achievements of their children and grandchildren, who are scattered all over the globe but remain very close. It may not be Devadan, where we meet these days, but we do meet regularly. Dad was fond of saying "the family that sings together, clings together." That is their priceless and lifetime gift to us. He had many other sayings that we recall and retell, all of them classic and

never to be forgotten. None of Dad's favourite sayings may be more apt than this. Composed for and inscribed on the gravestone of his father- the wording is "Your words and deeds were music, sweet melodies linger."

Dad, you have left us children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, melodies for a lifetime.

**With love and gratitude, from the Noronha children - Ivan, Doris, Peter, Rita, Joseph and Stephen.**

**Our spouses - Kevin, Susy, Rita, Patricia and Sandhya**

**Our children - Rohan, Ryan, Shani and Jasmine; Niren, Neela & Maria; Tara and Tanya; Adith, Maya and Tina; Rahul & Sonya**

**Their spouses- Mike, Nandini, Web, Kevin & Andrew & Dionysius' precious great-grandchildren - Mira & Leyla, Mila & Nina.**

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## PICKUP IN THE RAIN

*Forwarded by Dreamcatcher*

One night, at 11:30 p.m., an older African American Woman was standing on the side of an Alabama highway, trying to endure a lashing rain storm. Her car had broken down and she desperately needed a ride. Soaking wet, she decided to flag down the next car.

A young white man stopped to help her, generally unheard of in those conflict-filled 1960's. The man took her to safety, helped her get assistance and put her into a taxicab.

She seemed to be in a big hurry, but wrote down his address and thanked him. Seven days went by and a knock came on the man's door. To his surprise, a Giant console color TV was delivered to his home. A Special note was attached. It read:

"Thank you so much for assisting me on the highway the other night. The rain drenched not only my clothes, but also my spirits. Then you came along . . . Because of you, I was able to make it to my dying husband's bedside just before he passed away . . . God Bless you for helping me and unselfishly serving others."

Sincerely - Mrs Nat King Cole

## MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES CHALLENGE US!

*Fr. Cedric Prakash SJ\**

**January 17<sup>th</sup>** is designated as the ‘**World Day of Migrants and Refugees**’. The theme this year is ‘Migrants and refugees challenge us. The response of the Gospel of Mercy’.

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

In one stroke, we are challenged by the painful reality of the refugees of today and at the same time we are made to realise that we have but no choice but to do all we can to address one of the most serious problems of our world today. When Angela Merkel the Chancellor of Germany threw open the doors of Germany (and also of Europe) to the refugees who were coming en masse to Germany, there was a natural wave of resentment from several of her country men and women and also from other parts of Europe. She did not relent; though in recent days there are reports that she is slowly giving in “to public pressure”. On the other hand, we have a man like US Presidential hopeful Donald Trump who over and over again states that Muslim refugees should not be allowed into United States. The irony is that his



ratings go up in the United States which is sworn to principles of democracy, equality and dignity of all men and women. Fortunately, Pope Francis has become a beacon of hope not only for refugees but for all men and women; some months ago he strongly expressed his desire that every Catholic Parish of Europe adopt at least one refugee family.

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

It is important therefore that on a day dedicated to migrants and refugees, we commit ourselves whole-heartedly to address their plight and do all we can to ensure that our world becomes more humane, more just and more merciful for all - particularly to the migrants and refugees!

*\* Fr. Cedric Prakash, has recently relocated to Beirut.*

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## **REFORMATIVE JUSTICE VERSUS RETRIBUTIVE JUSTICE**

*Flavia Agnes, Majlis-Mumbai*

In October 2015, Justice N. Kirubakaran of the Madras high court commented that child sexual abusers must be castrated. It appears that today we are lapsing from the reformatory theory of justice and are keen to adopt the retributive theory of justice.

Will the suggested penalty of chemical castration for child rapists bring down the incidents of child rapes in the country? Well, some judges, politicians and civil society groups, reacting in a knee-jerk manner to the spiralling child sexual abuse cases in the country, seem to think so. The demand for chemical castration is not entirely new. Periodically, politicians and judges, prescribe chemical castration as an effective remedy, betraying a shallow and superficial understanding of the problem at hand.

During the NDA rule in the late 1990s, L.K. Advani, the then deputy Prime Minister, had raised this demand. Earlier, S.M. Agarwal, a sessions judge in Delhi, had made a similar comment. Justice V.D. Tulzapurkar, a Supreme Court judge during the early 1980s, responding to the anti-rape campaign, had suggested that rapists should be publicly flogged. People in influential positions have often prescribed sensational solutions, resulting in manipulating public sentiments. Most recently, in October 2015, Justice N. Kirubakaran of the Madras high court, reacting to the recent spate of child rapes in Delhi, said that child sexual abusers must be castrated. Though castration may appear barbaric, the judge stated, it is the only way the menace can be curbed. Following this, the Supreme Court Women Lawyers Association approached the Supreme Court with a public interest litigation (PIL) seeking a direction to the Centre to consider imposing chemical castration on child sex abusers and child rapists.

During their arguments before the Supreme Court, they cited the judgment of the Madras high court in support of their demand. They also argued that many developed countries like South Korea, Russia, Poland and some states in the US had introduced this punishment as a remedy. But what the lawyers did not clearly specify is that in most cases this punishment can be opted for by the accused in lieu of a prison sentence.

While the bench comprising Justices Dipak Misra and N.V. Ramana conceded that the law must be more stringent, it stopped short of endorsing the suggestion of castration. The bench was of the firm view that changing the law is a legislative prerogative and courts cannot intrude into this domain or even issue directions regarding the same to Parliament.

It is heartening to note that the response from Maneka Gandhi, minister of women and child development, has been restrained. She outright rejected this suggestion and said that such a barbaric measure will amount to reverting back to the medieval era or to Islamic jurisprudence which prescribes cutting off a hand as punishment for theft.

Well, it would indeed be going back to the archaic Babylonian law and the code of Hammurabi which was based on vengeful justice or the retributive theory of justice that liberal democracies rejected a long

time ago. But it does appear that today we are lapsing from the reformatory theory of justice, which jurists such as Justice Krishna Iyer prescribed, and are keen to adopt the retributive theory of justice as recently demonstrated by the changes brought about to the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015, which now permits minors of age 16-18 to be tried as adults.

Ms Gandhi came out with another novel idea of tattooing child rapists, so that they carry the stigma on their body for the rest of their lives. This reminds one of the punishment prescribed for women guilty of having multiple sexual partners, of prominently displaying the scarlet letter “A” (for adulteress) on their clothing to mark them as “fallen women” in puritan Boston during the 17th century. Though in a milder form, “tattooing” subscribes to the same notion of retributive justice.

The Supreme Court bench stated that there was no specific provision for child rape in the Indian Penal Code without making a reference to the provisions of Protection of Children from Sexual Offence (POCSO) Act enacted three years ago, on November 14, 2012, and commented that rape of toddlers and young girls stood on a different footing than rape of minor girls and Parliament should consider making a provision to deal with these separately.

According to Justice Kirubakaran of the Madras high court, even the stringent provisions of the POCSO Act have failed to act as a deterrent. He commented that while the incidents of child rape have increased 400%, the conviction rates are dismal, 2.4 per cent. So then how will castration help? Was the judge suggesting that as soon as an accused is arrested, he be castrated at the police station itself, because by the time the trial and appeals end, the accused may go scot-free. Chemical castration involves the administration of anti-androgen drugs which reduce sex drive, compulsive sexual fantasies and capacity for sexual arousal. Under the POCSO Act, penetrative sexual assault includes various other acts such as insertion of fingers or other objects into any body orifice. So how will castration help reduce child abuse?

In an illuminative article in Al Jazeera in 2014, Hamid Dabashi, a scholar of Iranian Studies at the Columbia University in New York, in response to reports about the bodies of two teenage girls who had been gang-raped and were found hanging from a mango tree in a village

in Badaun, Uttar Pradesh, dubbed castration as a knee-jerk reaction and suggested that we need a resurgence of solidarity based on the protection of the most vulnerable.

Relying on some expert studies, he states that though testosterone levels and consequently men's libidos can be lowered through surgical removal of testicles or treating him with drugs, the level is not brought down to zero and the libido is still active and hence there is no guarantee that the offender shall not lapse into the same behaviour. This type of punishment is viewed as cruel by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and Amnesty International. "When the state becomes involved in legalised castration, the spectre of forced sterilisation under the Nazis is immediately invoked," Dabashi warned.

As per the National Crime Record Bureau, 85-95% rapes are by known persons. So how can the solution lie in the domain of over-medicalised, over-legalised and over-politicised punishment? The solution must lie within the realm of providing protection to the most vulnerable children from the marginalised segments of our society through a multipronged support mechanism rooted in our reality.

*The writer is a women's rights lawyer*

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## APPRECIATION

Dear Derek and Patsy - Before Christmastide ends, let me wish both of you and family - and through you the 'officials' of CASK - a blessed 2016 filled with God's gifts of love, joy, peace and hope, and may you share these gifts with one and all.

I am very happy that CASK is doing so much good, especially the outreach work for those in need. Also the excellent work for 'MANGALORE' which I read and enjoy, and at times cut off a few pages. Finally the copies generally go to 4-5 FMM sisters from Mangalore who work in the Child Jesus Hospital-Trichy.

I've just returned from Tuticorin after a 6 day retreat to Holy Cross sisters, many of them teachers. I shared with them what Patsy wrote for Teachers' Day. Renewed wishes, kindest regards and 'God bless'

**Rex Pai S.J. Trichy**

***Thank you Fr. Rex for your words of encouragement and support.***

## "A ROYAL RENDEZ-VOUS"

*Sunita Menezes*

Prasad and myself were special invitees to a meeting with HRH Princess Anne in London, U.K. on the occasion of "A Festival of 9 Lessons and Carols". This occasion is held annually in December by the Mission to Seafarers - an organisation of which the Princess Royal is the President. The Mission to Seafarers is a 160 year old charitable organisation that helps seafarers all over the world - irrespective of rank, nationality and belief. And here I must add that their very helpful UK staff dispelled all my trepidation about meeting a "Royal"!!.

The function was held at St. Michael Paternoster Royal Church with the Lloyd's choir in attendance. Each of the 9 Bible readings was followed by a Christmas Carol - including one done by the Princess Royal herself. Prasad was one of the 9 chosen - to do the 3rd Lesson from the book of Isaiah. Later we were given a private audience of 5 minutes with HRH during which she wanted to know more about Mangalore and the work the Mission does here. We experienced an enjoyable evening of mince pies, mulled wine and the company of extremely distinguished guests.

In conclusion, a lasting impression indelibly stamped in my mind is the grace the Princess Royal exuded and the courtesy she extended to one and all present!!.

### **2015 Christmas Function of South Kanara Association (SKA)**

**London** - The 2015 Christmas function of SKA-LONDON was held on December 6, 2015 at the Sunlounge Banqueting Hall with nearly 200 members and guests attending. An unusually large participation, a sombre, seasonal environment and apt music made the hours go like minutes. The two MCs Jason and Rupal made sure everything went well to precision.

The afternoon started with the singing of Christmas carols by the children immaculately dressed and trained by Zeeta Rodrigues. Father Christmas made his appearance at the appointed time and distributed presents to children.

CASK President John Prasad Menezes and I were privileged to be the Guests of Honour. John Prasad spoke about the magazine '*Mangalore*' which has been published for >90 years and urged the audience to keep in touch with their roots in Mangalore, through the magazine.

A Konkani skit played by Pius and Sunil brought out the histrionic talent among the members to the sheer delight of those who could understand Konkani, to follow the inimical hostility between the Parish Priest and the drunk Parishioner.

The programme that followed can only be described as fantastic. It started off with the rock'n roll dance performed by Rowena, Peter, Chrissy and Sarah and the entire audience joining in for almost an hour to bring the old rock'n roll back into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This was followed by the traditional dances to the tune of English, Konkani and Bangra music.

Soon it was time for a delicious dinner followed by tasty desserts. After dinner Nigel Pais organised the unusual 'Heads or Tails' game in which everyone participated for £1 for a £50 prize. Then followed continuous music and dancing till the end. The party concluded with the owner of Sun Lounge singing a beautiful Hindi song.

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## THINKING OF SOMEONE I LOVE

*Fr Joe Mannath*

*Dear God,*

Thank You for your love and the people who make it real for me.

Thank you for the beauty in me and around me, and for the wonderful way You have made me.

Lord your word will be a lamp for my steps;

May Your love be a source of my strength;

and May Your arms protect me from all harm.

May I see You and love You in everyone I meet today and seek the truth with all the passion in my heart.

I seek the same grace for all those I love, and for the whole world.

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## CENTRAL MESSAGE OF CHRISTIANITY

*Fareed Zakaria- Opinion Writer & Ex-Editor, NEWSWEEK*  
(Forwarded by Vasanthi Nazareth, Orlando, Florida-USA)

I am not a Christian. But growing up in India, I was immersed in Christianity. I attended Catholic and Anglican schools from ages 5-18, where we would sing hymns, recite prayers and study the Scriptures. The words and actions of Pope Francis have reminded me what I, as an outsider, have always admired deeply about Christianity, that its central message is simple and powerful : Be nice to the poor.

When I came to the United States in the 1980s, I remember being surprised to see what “Christian values” had come to mean in American culture and politics - heated debates over abortion, abstinence, contraception and gays. In 13 years of reading, reciting and studying the Bible, I didn’t recall seeing much about these topics. That’s because there is very little in there about them. As Garry Wills points out in his perceptive new book, “The Future of the Catholic Church with Pope Francis,” “Many of the most prominent and contested stands taken by Catholic authorities have nothing to do with the Gospel.”

The church’s positions on these matters were arrived at through interpretations of “natural law,” which is not referred to in the Bible. But because those grounds looked weak, conservative clergy sought to bolster their views with biblical sanction. So contraception was condemned by Pope Pius XI, Wills notes, through a pretty tortuous interpretation of a couple of lines in Genesis that say Onan “spilled his seed on the ground” indicating that was to avoid conception.

The ban of women in the Catholic clergy is a similar stretch. When the Anglicans decided to ordain female priests in 1976, Pope Paul VI presented a theological reason not to follow that path. Women could not be priests, he decreed, because Jesus never ordained a female priest. “True enough,” Wills writes. “But neither did he ordain any men. There are no priests (other than the Jewish ones) in the four Gospels. Peter and Paul and their fellows neither call themselves priests nor are called priests by others.”

Wills further writes that ‘abortion’ is not mentioned in the Old or

the New testament but opposition to abortion is considered as fundamental to the Catholic faith. It is assumed that God must hate such an immense evil.

If you want to understand the main message of Jesus Christ, you don't have to search the Scriptures. He says it again and again. **“Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God.”**

Jesus has specific advice on how to handle the poor. Treat them as you would Christ himself, sell your possessions and give to the poor. When you hold a banquet, Jesus says, do not invite the wealthy and powerful, because you do so in the hope that they will return the favor and reward you. Instead, invite the dispossessed — and you will be rewarded by God. It is because he expects so much from the rich that he said that it was easier for a camel to get through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to get to heaven.

We live in a meritocratic age and believe that people who are successful are more admirable in some way than the rest of us. But the Bible notes that “the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise ... but time and chance happeneth to them all.” In the Kingdom of Heaven, it warns, “the last shall be first, and the first last.” In other words, be thankful for your success, but don't think it makes you superior in any deep sense.

Commentators have taken Pope Francis's speeches and sayings and claimed or hinted that he is a Marxist, a unionist or a radical environmentalist. I don't think the Pope is proposing an alternative system of politics or economics. He is simply reminding each of us that we have a moral obligation to be kind and generous to the poor and disadvantaged - especially if we have been fortunate. If you have a problem with this message, you have a problem not with Pope Francis, but with Jesus Christ.

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## **A WARM WELCOME TO THE NEW LIFE MEMBERS**

1. Mr. Joseph D'Souza, Mangalore
2. Mr. Peter J.C. D'Souza, Bangalore
3. Noel & Deborah Shenoi, California, USA



## THE 'INTOLERANCE' DEBATE

***Tasleema Nazreen, Bangladeshi Author and Sudheendra Kulkarni, BJP Ideologue (courtesy ICAN)***

Tasleema Nazreen, Bangladeshi Author recently said “India is a tolerant country with a few intolerant people and it is time to focus not just on Hindu fundamentalists but on Muslim and other fundamentalists as well”.

“I think India is a tolerant country, but some people are intolerant. In every society, there are some people who are intolerant. This is proved repeatedly including in the recent violence in Malda in West Bengal”.

“I think we should have freedom of expression even if that offends some people. If we do not open our mouths, society will not evolve. Of course, we should fight against misogyny, religious fundamentalism and all kinds of evil forces only to make the society a better one.”

Taslima Nazreen had drawn the ire of fundamentalists in Bangladesh for her books like ‘Dwikhandito’ and was forced to leave Bangladesh in 1994 for allegedly hurting religious sentiments with her novel ‘Lajja’.

On the other hand, BJP ideologue and writer Sudheendra Kulkarni said absolute freedom could only be exercised with responsibility.

“There is no freedom whatsoever to show any religion in bad light, knowing that it will hurt sentiments and insult others. I completely disagree that writers should have absolute freedom. Freedom must be exercised with responsibility,” he said.

Kulkarni said India as a country was “essentially tolerant” and that the debate must not be politicised.

“We should neither exaggerate nor belittle the incidents of intolerance. We should never politicise this debate, making it out as if it is between political parties. It is not that intolerance has begun in May 2014 (when the Narendra Modi government came to power),” Kulkarni said.

In September last year, a debate over what many writers said was a “growing climate of intolerance” saw over 40 writers and filmmakers

returning their awards to protest the killings of rationalists and writers like Narendra Dabholkar and M.M. Kalburgi and the lynching on a Muslim man in Dadri over suspicion that he ate beef.

He also said a certain kind of marginal intolerance has always been present in Indian society and so it was not right to blame “this party or that party” for it.

Tasleema Nazreen and Sudheendra Kulkarni were participating in a discussion on ‘Coming of the Age of Intolerance’ at the Delhi Literature Festival at Dilli Haat recently.

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## **RATES FOR ADVERTISEMENT IN ‘MANGALORE’**

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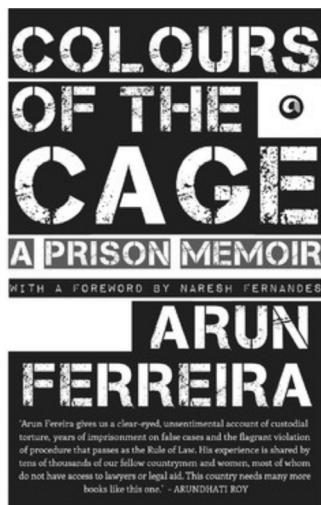
**Abroad** – For Life Members of CASK – Rs.900/- per year; For Non-Member Subscribers – Rs.1,500/- per year.

We request the Non-Member Subscribers to please consider enrolling yourself as Life Members of CASK through a one-time payment of Rs.1,000/-.

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# COLOURS OF THE CAGE: A PRISON MEMOIR

*Author - Arun Ferreira: Courtesy 'GoodRead'*



This Book authored by Arun Ferreira gives a searing account of life in prison and one man's fight for justice.

In May 2007, human rights activist Arun Ferreira was picked up from the railway station and arrested by the Nagpur police on charges of being a naxalite. Over the next few months, he was charged with more crimes-of criminal conspiracy, murder, possession of arms and rioting, among others-and incarcerated in one of the most notorious prisons in Maharashtra, the Nagpur central jail.

In '**Colors of the Cage**' Arun Ferreira provides an account of the nearly 5- years that he spent in jail and what prisoners face regularly - torture, beatings, the corrupt system, the codes of behaviour among inmates, the strikes mounted by prisoners to protest brutality, the general air of helplessness and the small consolations that keep hope alive.

In September 2011, Ferreira was acquitted of all charges and a breath away from freedom when he was re-arrested by plainclothes policemen at the prison gates. He never got a glimpse of his family who were waiting just outside. He began to fight the system all over again, until with the help of courageous friends and activists, he was cleared of all the trumped up charges that had put him in prison.

'Colors of the Cage' is the real story of what goes on behind bars-not the celluloid or novelistic version that readers will be familiar with. However, it is not just a gritty, harrowing account of life in prison but also a memoir of astonishing power and grace-about a man's stubborn fight for justice and the triumph of the human will.

Arun Ferreira is a saga in courage. An alumnus of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, he is basically a human rights defender, engaging in



social and political activism. As a college student, he organised students to fight for their rights and against social atrocities. He deeply involved himself in the ‘right-to-housing’ struggles of Mumbai slum dwellers and later on with the tribals and other marginalised communities in rural Maharashtra.

In the foreword to ‘Colours of the Cage’, **Naresh Fernandes** writes “*Arun Ferreira reminds us that diversity of opinion and debate are essential for any society to flourish. The worst thing we can do to ourselves is to imprison our imagination*”.

On the cover page of the book is a note from well-known author and activist **Arundhati Roy** “*Arun Ferreira gives us a clear-eyed, unsentimental account of custodial torture, years of imprisonment on false cases and the flagrant violation of procedure that passes as the Rule of Law. His experience is shared by tens of thousands of our fellow countrymen and women, most of whom do not have access to lawyers or legal aid. This country needs many more books like this one*”.

**“Colors of the Cage” is Published by Aleph Book Company- Paperback, 176 pages**

**Editor’s Note :** This is an extremely good read. Indeed Arun Ferreira is a saga in courage. As Arundhati Roy has said “Our country needs many more books like this one” and many more activists like Arun. CASK is proud of you and your fight for justice **Arun Ferreira!**

*Norbert Shenoy*

**A Good Old Mochi - “Start-ups”** seem to be the flavor of the season. Is there hope for many of our dying industries? Could there at all be an entrepreneurial opportunity in any of these effete trades? Here is an account of a cobbler’s son who refused to give up his passion for shoemaking. I am sure many such stories could be dug out in our own land, where more and more youngsters are bitten by the entrepreneurial bug, particularly in our rural hinterland.

John Vlagos is a popular cobbler in Chicago, who has owned and operated a shoe repairing shop for >30 years. He’s what we would call a good, popular mochi, with his own shop. He did what he did, for a living; but clearly wanted more from life for his son George. He didn’t want George to become a mochi like him - he wanted him to get into more respectable professions - maybe a lawyer or a teacher. George would come in the weekends to his father’s shop, to help out. John often gave his son a lot of work, thinking it will put him off the cobbler trade, and set him up for something better in life. George went off to college and in due course became an English teacher for a while - just like his father wanted.

But his fascination with shoes refused to go away. He was out shopping one day for a pair of boots - he was specifically looking for boots made out of natural leather with genuine leather soles. To his amazement, he found that he just couldn’t locate a pair of good old fashioned boots. It dawned on him that the age of “disposables” had caught up with the shoe business as well. The market was flooded with imported shoes and boots, often made with synthetic material, which were inexpensive and therefore brought about a consumer behaviour of treating them as “disposables” - wear them for a while, and at the first sign of wear and tear, chuck them and buy a new pair. The good old habit of repairing one’s shoes/boots, resoling them and wearing one pair for years was completely forgotten in the new age of “disposables”.

He suddenly saw a unique opportunity for himself, in a trade he always loved - making and repairing shoes. He went about crafting his first pair of boots - for himself. He loved the feel of his hand crafted boots, and sensed that there would be many more out there who felt a similar need, but couldn't find the original stuff any longer. That insight set him up on his new business venture. He located a shoe making factory in Maine that was being shut down, for lack of business - a victim of the new trend of "disposables". The factory had a bunch of old world shoemakers, who knew how to make the "good old all-American hand crafted leather shoes and boots". He bought over the shoe factory with the help of funding from a friend, and began making **Oak Street shoes and boots** - made from 100% genuine Horween leather, boots that boasted of Goodyear welted construction. That's how American shoes and boots were originally made.

George combined this strategy of bringing back a good old product for discerning customers who yearned for the original stuff, with new age marketing strategies. He didn't open a store. He opened a website in August 2010, which he called Oak Street Bootmakers. He quickly understood that in the new world, the most influential opinion makers were prominent fashion bloggers. He got some of the more prominent of them to review his boots. They loved his all American original genuine leather boots, and covered his products extensively in their blogs. That got traffic swelling on his website, which resulted in orders pouring in, and in no time, he ran up a waiting list of 6 weeks for delivering his boots across America.

Oak Street boots don't come cheap - they are in the range of US\$ 200 - 400 (that's Rs.13,000 - Rs.26,000) for a pair. But the promise of 100% genuine leather plus a promise to re-craft the shoes anytime, meant that you went back to doing what your grandparents probably did - you bought a pair that lasted you a lifetime. If you buy a pair of Oak Street boots, you can get them repaired, re-soled, re-crafted anytime. Boots for a lifetime is the promise, not boots for this season. After all repairing and recrafting worn out boots was something he grew up with - working weekends at his father's cobbler shop. And of course, there was money in it!

Oak Street Boots went on to sell its hand crafted boots in a few upmarket stores across key US cities, and now has a long and growing list of celebrities who come to these stores, buy their boots, and then post pictures on Instagram and Facebook showing off their cool new boots. Oak Street Boots is now a multi-million dollar business that employs dozens of workers producing tens of thousands of hand-crafted genuine leather shoes and boots each year.

George Vlagos continues to be almost as hands-on as he was when he personally hand-crafted the first pair of boots. He takes pride in personally answering every mail that comes in. He inspects every box of shoes before it gets packed and shipped.

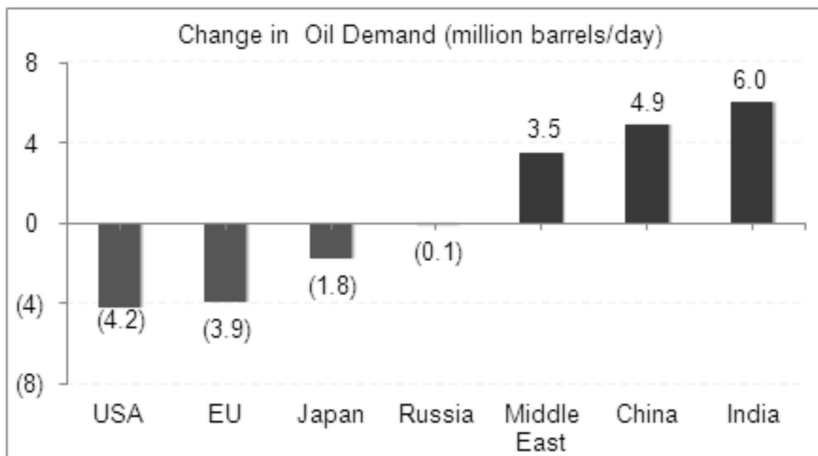
George's father, John Vlagos, who tried his best to wean away his son from the shoe-trade to something he believed to be more substantial, is dumbstruck! His son's shoes are not only worn by the elite across US, but are shipped to countries in Europe and as far away as Japan. John's business -the mochi trade - is one of the casualties of the trend towards "disposables". Fewer Americans are bothering to go to a cobbler to repair or re-sole their worn out inexpensive shoes. They just chuck them and buy another pair. But John's son George saw an opportunity in the same shoe trade that everyone saw as a dying business. He thought differently when others walked through the rut. He built a business by finding flaws and chinks in what had become the mainstream business model. He promised a return to the good old ways, and found a growing bunch of takers, who were fed up with mass-produced commoditized products.

George Vlagos' story is a unique combination of undying passion for his chosen trade, an uncanny ability to sense latent demand for "the original" high quality product that went out of fashion after the advent of mass produced "disposables" and tremendous foresight in choosing new age marketing, promotion and product delivery mechanisms, despite peddling good old values. It is the same in every walk of life including investing.

## Oil Demand in India

India today imports around 70% of the oil that it consumes. Thus, it goes without saying that in the longer term, India needs to focus on becoming self reliant as far as its energy needs are concerned. But is the country anywhere close to this goal? Probably not. As reported in the Mint, India's energy consumption is set to double from current levels by 2040. In other words, India will topple China to see the fastest growth in energy demand during this period. The International Energy Agency (IEA) expects India's oil demand to rise by 6 million barrels per day to 9.8 million barrels per day in 2040. Further, it opines that oil production will fall behind demand. Thus, oil import dependence will rise above 90% by 2040. Coal will continue to account for a larger chunk of India's energy mix. Increasing import dependence does not bode well for India in the longer term as there could be constant pressure on the Indian rupee and could have major implications in terms of managing trade balances. It will be interesting to see how the government tackles this particular issue in the coming years. Is it time to focus on oil and gas sector while investing?

### India to Lead the Growth in Oil Usage (2014-2040)



www.equitymaster.com

Source: World Energy Outlook 2015, Livemint

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# CASK Programme March 05, 2016

## *A celebration of Life, Language and a Legend*

**Date : Saturday, March 5, 2016**

**Time : 5.00 pm**

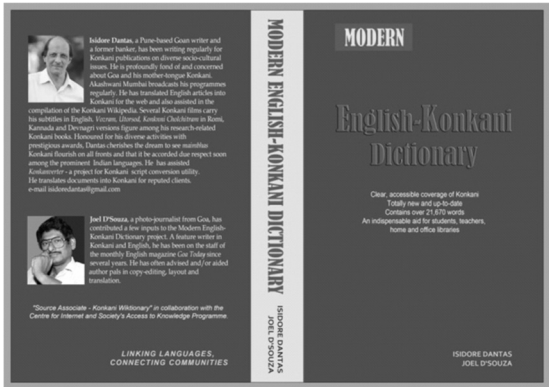
**Venue : St Agnes College**

### *Four interesting events:*

1. **Mangalore Book Launch** of the Modern English Konkani (Romi) Dictionary by Isidore Dantas and Joel D'Souza. Published by Broadway Publishing House Goa. It will be the main Konkani word source on Wiktionary which will help preserve Konkani language and culture in the digital era. Like its sister project Wikipedia, Wiktionary is a multilingual web-based free content dictionary run by the Wikimedia Foundation, and is written collaboratively by volunteers, dubbed "Wiktionarians".
2. **CASK honours the legend Vimala Lobo** whose contribution to Music and Performing Arts is unparalleled in Mangalore.
3. Talk by Dr Christopher C. Pais, M.D. (Internal Medicine), Professor of Medicine, Kasturba Medical College, Mangalore & Honorary Medical Officer, Wenlock District Hospital, Mangalore. on **"Advanced Life Support"**.
4. Talk by Dr Derek Lobo, former Regional Adviser, World Health Organization, South East Asia Region on **"Organ Donations-A Noble Act"**.

**All members of CASK are cordially invited.**

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## NEWS & NOTES

### FR CEDRIC PRAKASH SJ MOVES TO BEIRUT



After 42-years of commendable work on human rights in Gujarat, Fr Cedric Prakash has relocated to Beirut to work among the thousands of internally displaced people.

In his new mission, he will be coordinating the ‘universal mission’ of the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) for Syria, Jordan, Egypt, Palestine, Israel, Sudan and Chad. His work involves ensuring that refugees are accorded the rights guaranteed by the 1951 Geneva Convention.

Fr Cedric founded PRASHANT, the Jesuit centre for human rights in Ahmedabad in 2001. Since the 2002 Gujarat riots, he has been a relentless critic of the Government headed by Chief minister Narendra Modi, over his failure to prevent the riots. He had also spearheaded the campaign against Gujarat’s new anti-conversion law ‘The Gujarat Freedom of Religion Act 2003’, which he also challenged in 2009 in the high court. “Our fight here in Gujarat is not over. We will fight for the values enshrined in our Constitution and will carry on the struggle for the marginalized and victims of violence,” said Fr. Prakash.

Fr Cedric has received several national and international awards which include the Kabir Puraskar by the President of India in 1995 for harmony, Chevalier de la Legion Honneur (Knight of the Legion of Honour) by the French President in 2006 for human rights causes as well as the Indian government’s Minority Rights Award.

It was during his visit to Lebanon in July 2015 that he had finally made up his mind about Beirut.

On his new mission Fr. Cedric said, “The refugee crisis in the Middle East and North Africa region (MENA), especially in the light of ISIS today cannot be seen in isolation. The arms and ammunition industry plays a crucial role in MENA and so do mercenaries of every hue.”

**CASK wishes Fr Cedric Prakash the very best in his new assignment.**

## WHAT'S IN THE POCKET OF BARACK OBAMA?



When President Barack Obama feels discouraged, tired or upset, he guides his hand into his right pocket and looks at some of the keepsakes in it – rosary beads gifted by Pope Francis, a tiny Budha, a coptic cross from Ethiopia, a statuette of Lord Hanuman. They provide him solace and inspiration!

He says “That helps me cope on a bad day because somebody gave me this privilege to work on these issues that are going to affect them” and then “I realize I better get back to work!”

**He was also asked to describe the characteristics of “OBAMIUM” - a hypothetical element named after him.** He said “I would want it to be stable and to be a catalyst; one that didn’t get too hot or too cold and hopefully, it would be one that was useful to humanity”

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## STATUES OF NEW SAINTS CONNECTED WITH ROSARIO CATHEDRAL INSTALLED.

The Bishop of Mangalore-Dr Aloysius Paul D’Souza, after concelebrating a Eucharistic mass with many priests on January 10, 2016, blessed and erected statues of St. Joseph Vaz and St Mariam Baouardy two dedicated religious who served in Mangalore and were canonized in 2015. The new statues were installed at the entrance of the main foyer of Rosario Cathedral, were both the new saints worshiped during their stay in Mangalore.

### **Brief Introduction of the two saints:**

**St Joseph Vaz** : Born in Goa, he was ‘Vicar of Canara’ from 1681 to 1684. During his stay he undertook a series of missionary activities in Canara. He is said to have renovated Rosario Church, which was probably to the South West of the present spot. The church which he set up at Mudipu hill is a miraculous pilgrim center. He served the communities from Karwar to Kasargod. He later went to Ceylon (now

Sri Lanka) and is known as Apostle of Sri Lanka. Pope Francis canonized Joseph Vaz on January 14, 2015 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

**St. Mariam Baouardy** : With two cloistered Carmel and three Apostolic Carmel nuns landed at Bunder, Mangaluru from France on November 19, 1870, via Madras, Vellore and Calicut. The then Bishop Marie Ephrem welcomed them officially at Rosario Cathedral. Sr. Mariam Baouardy even took her first vows at a Chapel in St. Ann's convent where she lived, the place is still preserved, then the cloistered convent now at Kankanady did not exist. She left Mangaluru on September 23, 1872. Pope John Paul II beatified her on November 13, 1983 and Pope Francis canonized her on May 17, 2015.

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## **MR VIVIAN M. PERES, DIRECTOR-VENTOURS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL NOMINATED AS MEMBER – WORLD TRAVEL & TOURISM COUNCIL-INDIA**



**Vivian Peres**, Director Ventours International Travel, New Delhi has been nominated as a Member of the World Travel and Tourism Council, India Initiative(WTTCII), considered as Tourism's "High Table"! The WTTCII is a high level Forum and influential think-tank of India's Travel, Tourism, Hotel & Airline industry leaders and a major platform to influence India's Tourism, Civil Aviation and cruising policies. The role of WTTCII is to advice the council and in turn bureaucrats and government leaders to help enhance India's potential to attract larger numbers of tourists including uber luxury travelers in private Jets to visit our region and promote cruising in India's waters and to our ports.

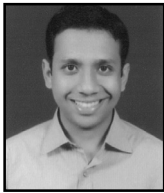
The present Chairman of the Council is Kapil Chopra-President of the Oberoi group of Hotels and the Vice-Chairman is Ashwani Lohani- Chairman & MD-Air India. Other members include industry luminaries like Mr PRS Oberoi, Executive Chairman-Oberoi Group. Vikram Oberoi, MD-Oberoi Hotels, Rakesh Sarna, MD-Taj Hotels, Nakul Anand, Executive Director-ITC Hotels, Naresh Goyal, Chairman-Jet Airways, Priya Paul, Chairperson-Park Hotels & the

Apeejay group, Jyotsna Suri, Chairperson-Lalit Hotels and FICCI (Federation of Chambers of Indian Commerce & Industry) and Peter Kerkar, Chairman-Cox&Kings.

**CASK congratulates Vivian on this prestigious appointment and wishes him further success.**

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## **MANGALORE HAS A NEW CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT – SHANE MATHIAS**



Shane Mathias has joined as a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India after passing the tough CA examinations. Shane has been supporting CASK activities and for sometime was overseeing the CASK Website.

Shane is the son of Patricia and Dr Anthony Mathias, Member, Governing Council of CASK.

**CASK congratulates Shane and wishes him a bright future.**

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## **KARAVALI KONKANS KALA PRASHASTI CONFERRED ON EVELYN D'SILVA**



Renowned drama actress of yesteryears, Evelyn Marie D'Silva was conferred the prestigious Karavali Konkans Kala Prashasti for the year 2015 in a ceremony held at St Sebastian Platinum Jubilee Auditorium,

Bendore on Saturday January 9.

Well-known columnist and director of Fatima Retreat House Fr Prashanth Madtha, along with parish priest of St Sebastian's Church, Bendore Fr Antony Serrao presented the award. The award comprised a citation, a memento, a shawl and Rs 50,000 cash.

**CASK congratulates Evelyn and wishes her a happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on February 11, 2016.**

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## Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) Organizes Seminar on “Issues & Concerns of Women & Children in Our Community”



DCCW organized a Seminar on ‘Issues and Concerns of Women and Children in our community’ on 7<sup>th</sup> February at the St Aloysius College Auditorium. Ms Lovely Yeldose, Regional Secretary-Karnataka, CBCI Council for

Women was the Chief Guest.

Ms Hilda Alva, President-DCCW welcomed and stated the objectives of the seminar. In her address, Ms Lovely Yeldose gave a brief summary of the work of the CBCI Council for women in promoting women’s empowerment and greater role within the Catholic Church and urged the DCCW-Mangalore to pro-actively work towards greater involvement of women in the administration and decision-making processes within the Diocese of Mangalore.

She said that offences against women/children in India are widespread, with attacks occurring every 26 minutes, violence every 43 minutes, rape every 54 minutes and dowry incidents every 102 minutes. She noted that Pope Francis has declared this year as the Year of Mercy and urged that mercy be shown to women and children who are under relentless attack. She said girls should be encouraged to equip themselves for gainful employment through proper education.

This was followed by three sessions pertaining to the following topics :

**Session-1 :** (a) Victimization of women – Case Study by Capt John Prasad Menezes, President-CASK; (b) ‘Fortitude in Adversity’ by Ms Mabel Sequeira; Capt Menezes presented instances of victimization of women. Ms Sequeira urged the audience to show fortitude and to never give up the fight for rights and justice.

**Session-2 :** Issues concerning children ‘Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences’ by Sr Dulcine Crasta, UFS; Sr Dulcine pointed out

the various obvious or subtle sexual offences that children encounter and explained the ways to recognize such offences and deal with them.

**Session-3 :** (a) Gender Equality and Sensitivity – Emerging Trends by Dr Derek Lobo, Past President-CASK; (b) ‘Eye Openers’ by Dr Ronald Fernandes, President, Press Club-Mangalore.

Dr Derek Lobo pointed out that we are living in an ocean of inequalities and discriminations. He spoke about inequalities adversely affecting women in three areas : (i) jobs, salaries/benefits and career prospects; (ii) bequest of immovable assets favoring sons; and (iii) exclusion of women from priesthood.

Dr Ronald Fernandes referred to specific cases related to problems confronted by women and the need for vigilance by all concerned. The talks were followed by a lively Question/Answer session.

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## **Obituaries - January/February**

**CASK offers its sincere condolences to the families of the following members of our community, who passed away recently:**

1. Carmine D'Souza (82), Valencia, wife of late Devdanam, mother of Valerian Clement D'Souza, Valencia, on January 9, 2016.
2. Joachim Fernandes (77), Valencia, husband of late Cecelia, father of Prinita Kirthi/Santhosh D'Mello & Praveen, Kirit/Anita, on January 11, 2016.
3. Alice Mary D'Costa (85) Derebail, Retd. Teacher, Holy Family Hr Primary School, Derebail, wife of late Nicholas Balthazar D'Costa, on January 11, 2016.
4. Sr M Lionissa AC (75) Mangalore, daughter of late Narsis M Almeida & late Catherine Almeida, Congregation of the Apostolic Carmel, on January 13, 2016.
5. Ronald P. A. D'Souza (52), Shakthinagar, husband of Benedicta Hilda Dsouza, father of Reenal Dsouza, on January 15, 2016.
6. Celine D'Costa (66) Valencia, Wife of Robert D'Costa, Mother of Jenifer/Cedric Sequeira, Caroline/Arun Raj Rodrigues, on January 19, 2016.
7. Sr M. Electa BS (78), Bethel Convent Permannur, Congregation of the Sisters of the Little Flower of Bethany, on January 20, 2016.

8. Arun Charles D'Souza (44), Bondel, son of late Lawrence D'Souza, on January 21, 2016.
9. Juliana Ferrao (78), Milagres, mother of Melwin, on January 21, 2016.
10. Vincent Pinto (53), Rosario, proprietor of Johncil Caterers, husband of Violet Pinto, father of Vivian, on January 22, 2016.
11. Sr Felcy Carlo (65), Agrar/Jharkand, daughter of late Jacob Carlo & Teresa Carlo, sister of Fr Gratian Carlo, Sr Bartholomeo Carlo, on January 22, 2016.
12. Ronald Colaso (69), Vas Lane/Delhi, husband of Vineeta Peters, father of Nitesh/Hazel, son of late Mervyn & late Irene Colaco, brother of Claude/Maria, Kevin/Maureen, Edith/Peter Rego, Judith/Joy D'Silva, Lydith/Rony Pinto, on January 23, 2016.
13. Gratian Valerian D'Souza (62) Urwa/Dubai, husband of Meera, father of Divya/Naveen & Nihal/Pearl, on January 25, 2016.
14. Mary Sequeira (64) Derebail, wife of Harold Sequeira, mother of Hazel/Owen D'Souza - Reuban D'Souza, Mareina/Claude D'Souza - Aaron D'Souza, Clohe D'Souza, Suzan/Pritam D'Souza - Iris D'Souza & Dereck Sequeira, on January 26, 2016.
15. Fr Benjamin R Lobo (83) Urwa/Mangalore, son of late Thomas Lobo. He served in the Diocese of Jabalpur & Diocese of Great Falls, Billings, Montana (USA), on January 27, 2016.
16. Valerian Thomas Noronha (55), Bajpe/Mumbai, husband of Wilma Noronha, father of Welbourne and Rohan, on January 27, 2016.
17. Canute Eugene Vijay Mendoza (60), Kallianpur/Kuwait, husband of Avril, father of Canril/Savio Fernandes & Abner, on January 28, 2016.
18. Sybil Fernandes (83), Bangalore, wife of Roque Fernandes, mother of Terence, Neena, Rowena & Clara, on 29 January 2016.
19. Sr Alphonsa D'Souza (Teju), Bangalore/Bondel, DDM, Bangalore, daughter of late Diego & late Mary D'Souza, sister of late Bishop Basil D'Souza, on February 2, 2016.
20. Vivian A.F.Coelho(92), Advocate/Chennai, husband of late Marjorie, father of late Caroline/Col.John de Britto, Timothy/Ayesha, Yvonne/Sashi Kumar, Noel/Dr Halourine, Mark/Neela, Jackie/Anand Lobo, John/Anita on February 2, 2016.
21. Fr Valerian John Fernandes (64), Belthangady/Asansol, West Bengal, belonging to the Catholic diocese of Asansol, on February 6, 2016.