

महाराष्ट्र दिन A department USR endeavor

This is a small attempt to connect with school and college students for exchanging ideas, gaining knowledge and more over providing a platform for their talent which has been complied and displayed on our department webpage on this special occasion of Maharashtra Din, 1st May 2021.

The document shares the proud feeling of belonging to this historically, strategically and commercially important state of India. As rightly quoted by *Kavi Govindagraj*,

“मंगल देशा, पवित्र देशा, महाराष्ट्र देशा
प्रणाम घ्यावा माझा हा श्रीमहाराष्ट्र देशा”

The theme for talent platform this month was ‘Maharashtra an inspiration’. The information of the said idea was floated on our FB page and a few other social media groups inviting students from KG-PG to draw, write, share their views about people, places, culture and cuisine of Maharashtra. This idea was picked up by some quickly, and what manifested has been documented herewith. We plan to enhance our reach in our next attempt, engaging a wider audience for a better interaction.

We welcome you all to be a part of our forthcoming activities. Do reach out to us at drvkelkar@mu.ac.in for any assistance in learning science and more with a different approach. Watch out this webpage for interesting links to informative videos and documentaries.

A heartfelt thanks to all parents who encouraged their wards to participate and the youngsters for their wonderful creations and contributions. Do enjoy the children’s’ creations!

Needless to say, that the opinions, facts mentioned herein are as stated, and contributed by the authors/contributors. The department does not endorse or advocate any stated information. No part of this document can be reproduced without the permission of the department.

Enjoy!!!

Varsha Kelkar Mane MSc, PhD, FRSC,
Associate, Professor and Head

Culinary trail of Maharashtra

Ms Aishwarya Page, 8th Std MET Rishikul Vidyalaya

Maharashtrian food is one of the most diverse, flavoursome, and delicious cuisines in India. Every food represents the landscape, climate, culture, and uniqueness of the region it originates from. Each dish uses a combination of aromatic spices and ingredients unique to the region, giving it a distinctive and unforgettable taste.

Maharashtra is divided into five main regions- Konkan, Desh, Khandesh, Marathwada, and Vidarbha. To the northernmost part of Maharashtra lies the Khandesh region. This region consists of the districts Dhule, Nashik, and Nandurbar. Khandeshi cuisine is by far the spiciest cuisine in Maharashtra. Dhule is known for its cultivation of chillies, hence Khandeshi cuisine is also recognized by the signature spicy 'thechas' (a condiment/ chutney made of chilli and garlic). Eggplant is also a frequently used vegetable, with a wide range of dishes like 'bharli vangi' or 'ghotleli bhaji'. Saibhaji, Shev Bhaji, Patolyanchi bhaji are some well known veg dishes from this region.

Spicy 'Tariwali' Mutton curry is also a favourite in Khandeshi cuisine. Khapar Mande, Dashmya are sweet dishes and Bibde and Kurdaya condiments that are well liked.

To the west coast of Maharashtra, beyond the mighty Sahyadri ranges, lies the Konkan region. Konkan comprises of Mumbai, Thane, Ratnagiri, Raigad, and Sindhudurg. Being a coastal region, seafood is widely eaten here. The Konkan region is known for its scrumptious fish curries and fries. It is further divided into smaller regional cuisines like Malvani and Agri. In the summer, fishermen dry the fish to preserve it for the monsoon months when seas become rough and fishing is difficult. Since coconut is easily available in this region, it is the main ingredient in many dishes. 'Kokum kadhi' is also a famous beverage consumed with everyday meals in the konkan region.

As we move further in the state, we reach the Desh region; also known as Paschim Maharashtra. The Desh region contains Satara, Pune, and Kolhapur. The Desh region was the center of many large kingdoms in Maharashtra, and the royal cuisine heavily influenced the eating habits of the people living in this region. Desh is agriculturally prosperous due to fertile soil and good irrigation. Here, 'Bhakri', an indian flatbread, is eaten with every meal. The Kolhapuri cuisine also incorporates many spicy dishes, and has a large variety of meats like chicken, fish, and mutton. Tambda and Pandhra Rassa are well known Kolhapuri dishes.

To the center of Maharashtra lies the Marathwada region, which encompasses the districts Aurangabad, Beed, Hingoli, Jalna, Latur, Nanded, Osmanabad, and Parbhani. Marathwada produces sugarcane, milk, fruits, and vegetables in abundance as farming and agriculture is the main profession. Popular dishes like Misal, Bhel, Puran poli, and Thalipeeth originate from this region and are now eaten all over Maharashtra.

And finally, at the eastern end of Maharashtra lies Vidarbha. Vidarbha consists of Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Nagpur, Wardha, Akola, Amravati, Buldhana, Yavatmal, Bhandara, and Washim. This region has two cuisines; 'Varhadi' and 'Saoji'. Again, both cuisines include a wide variety of spices. A dish found throughout Vidarbha is 'Gola bhat', which is a rice cooked in turmeric and mustard oil, amongst other spices, and eaten along with dough balls made of chickpea flour.

And here we end our short tour of the delicious cuisines of Maharashtra. Indubitably, Maharashtra is one of the most unique and colourful states of India and I am proud to be a part of it. Happy Maharashtra day!

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Maharashtra -My Inspiration

Sanvy Sanjay Kulkarni, Grade 7, MET Rishikul Vidyalaya

Maharashtra is amazing it truly is the BEST
It's the biggest state in India's west
It has such a rich culture, heritage and a vast coast too
It has such beautiful mountains-oh what all to view!
The Sahyadris, they are called-so majestic and bright
Just looking at them is such a wonderful sight
Godavari and Krishna are It's two major rivers
Along with Tapi, Narmada, Indravati- they are such generous givers
Maharashtra also has many historical forts and caves
There are many lovely artifacts that we have managed to save
But why do I find Maharashtra so inspiring you may ask
It's because of the people who lived in its past
People who gave up their lives so that we can live freely today
People who stood their ground till they got it their way
Leaders like Shivaji and his trusted men
They won so many battles even if the ratio was hundred to ten
How bravely they fought and willingly gave up their lives for us
How they lived in harsh conditions without making a fuss
This is what I truly find so inspiring about our state
This is what makes my Maharashtra so great
I shall do my bit to make my state proud
Let's all chant "Jai Maharashtra"- aloud!!

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Stories of Hope & Help

Ms Prisha Gupta, Grade 7, Podar-ORT International School

In the wake of the current global calamity of COVID-19, we hear about heartbreaking stories, bad news, record-breaking data and panic every single day. But recently, I came across 2 heart-warming stories that truly inspired me. I hope they inspire you as well.

One day, my father was going to his office. He usually walks to office but one day, as he was getting late for office, he decided to take a taxi. When he sat in the taxi, he asked the taxi driver about how the pandemic is affecting them. The taxi driver was very worried and said that people are scared to step out of their houses and if they don't get customers, they won't have any food to feed their families. Soon the office arrived and my father had to pay a fare of Rs. 25. He gave the taxi driver Rs.100 instead so that he at least has some food to feed his children.

I read a very inspirational story in the newspaper recently. It was about an old man who was 85 years old and during COVID-19, he used to go and distribute ration to all the needy people. Few days later, he contracted the virus and it took 3 days for his daughter to find him a bed in the hospital. One day at the hospital, he saw a lady crying with her 2 children. He asked the doctor what happened, and the doctor said that the lady's husband is in a critical condition and there is no bed available. Soon the old man told the doctor that he has lived my life. He understood that the husband has the responsibility of 4 people and his family won't be able to live a good life without him. He signed a form and gave his bed to the other man. After 3 days the old man passed away.

This is a very emotional and touching incident. I realized that humanity still exists. We need to put needy people before us, especially at such challenging times. It's high time we all realize that we need to be 'humans' and not just selfish beings.

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Mumbai University- The University of World Leaders

Kunal Chitre, FY BMS

Bombay Stock Exchange Institute P J Towers, Mumbai University

Mumbai university has given India & the world countless billionaires, business leaders & eminent personalities. Starting from the person who gave our beloved nation freedom to the richest man in our continent.

There are so many pillars to the world who have at one point in their career been in a MU affiliated college that an essay will never be able to justify it. So, let's keep our focus on a very few personalities.

MK GANDHI: Who does not know the man who gave us independence from the British. Very few know about the fact that Samaldas Arts college was affiliated to the University of Bombay (now Mumbai University) when the Mahatma attended it. The role Mahatma Gandhi played in shaping our nation to where it is today is irreplaceable. Today we Indians have a global image of being decent and non-violent and intelligent. Somewhere Mr. Gandhi's satyagraha and non-violent approach towards making India independent has played a big role in our global image being decent and clean.

DR B R AMBEDKAR: the man who wrote the constitution of India has done his law degree from here. Dr. Ambedkar had a very futuristic vision of the future for the nation as the constitution he wrote is still being used by us today. Things like demonetization were mentioned in his work from the previous century.

SHRI PREMCHAND ROYCHAND: Graduated from Elphinstone college he was the first Indian broker to be able to speak English. He was also known as the BULLION KING FROM BOMBAY.

COMING TO PRESENT TIMES

HDFC GROUP- MR. Deepak Parikh the chairman of the HDFC group, Mr. Deepak Parikh has done his graduation from Sydenham college. Mr. Parikh has played a crucial role in the finance sector with 6 NBFC'S & one bank all being large cap companies.

RELIANCE INDUSTRIES chairman MR. MUKESH AMBANI graduated from UDCT, Mumbai. Mr. Ambani has helped India in its digital revolution. He also owns the world's largest oil refinery. Mr. Ambani is also the richest man on the continent.

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK- MR. UDAI KOTAK- graduation from Sydenham collage and doing his post-graduation from JBIMS today. Mr. Kotak is the world's richest banker he has founded and grown the KOTAK group. Mr. Uday Kotak is the world's richest banker.

D MART- MR. RADAKRISHNAN DAMANI, a drop out from Mumbai university, Mr. Damani the founder and promoter of D mart and a big investor in multiple companies he comes in the top ten richest people in India.

BAJAJ GROUP-MR. RAHUL BAJAJ. Mr. Bajaj having studied from Government Law College Mumbai, has headed the Bajaj group and founded some of their most successful companies like Bajaj finance and Bajaj auto.

THE ACE INVESTOR MR. RAKESH JHUNJHUNWALA -Mr. Jhunjhunwala the richest investor of our country starting with just rupees 5000 he has made billions for himself.

As we can see, there are many notable business personalities who have graduated out of Mumbai University. It is extremely challenging for me to write an article on all the business legends present & past as it will be a series of books. Mumbai University plays a huge role in shaping careers of so many successful people are graduating from here.

There are also a lot of Bollywood actors who are also alumni of Mumbai University. But then, that's another story ... 😊

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महाराष्ट्राची मुंबई

Nikita Mahashabde, MSc, University department of Biotechnology, University of Mumbai

महाराष्ट्र राज्य म्हणजे उत्तर व दक्षिण भारत जोडणारी विशाल भूमी आहे. ही भूमी संतांची, कवींची, लेखकांची, वीरांची, विरांगणांची आहे. छत्रपती शिवाजी महाराजांनी याच भूमी वर स्वराज्याची स्थापना केली. या भूमीतून पेशव्यांनी अटकेपार झेंडे फडकवले होते. इथल्या भूमिपुत्रांनी इंग्रजांविरुद्ध आवाज उठवला होता. अशा या भूमीचा सांस्कृतिक वारसा फार मोठा आहे. त्याचबरोबर, महाराष्ट्राला निसर्गाचा वरदहस्त लाभलेला आहे जसे की किल्ले, गड, निसर्गरम्य स्थळे, शांत समुद्रकिनारे, प्राचीन हस्तकलेची साक्ष देणारी लेणी, ऐतिहासिक मंदिरे, अभयारण्ये इत्यादी.

एकूण पाच विभागांमध्ये महाराष्ट्र राज्य विभागले गेले आहे :- कोकण विभाग, पश्चिम विभाग, मराठवाडा, विदर्भ आणि उत्तर विभाग किंवा खान्देश. प्रत्येक विभागाची स्वतःची अशी ओळख आहे. सण समारंभ साजरा करायची पद्धत, बोली भाषा, खाद्य संस्कृती, राहणीमान, भौगोलिक परिस्थिती या सगळ्यांचे विविध प्रकार आढळतात.

ह्या पाच विभागांपैकी, मुंबई "कोकण" विभागात मोजली जाते. महाराष्ट्राच्या उजव्या कुशीत पडलेले आणि सागराने वेढलेले मुंबई हे एक महाराष्ट्राच्या समुद्रकिनाऱ्यावरील प्रमुख आंतरराष्ट्रीय ख्याती लाभलेले शहर आहे. भारताची मायानगरी किंवा स्वप्ननगरी म्हणून प्रसिद्ध असलेली मुंबई, ही महाराष्ट्राची राजधानी आहे. इथल्या जुन्या इमारती, देखणा समुद्रकिनारा, चित्रपटसृष्टीचे मुख्य ठिकाण या सर्वांमुळे पर्यटकांना मुंबईचे आकर्षण वाटते. अशा या मुंबईमध्ये आधुनिक व पारंपरिक भारतीय आणि पाश्चिमात्य संस्कृतीचा संगम पहायला मिळतो. जगातील हे एक महत्त्वाचे बंदर असल्याने त्यास विशेष महत्त्व लाभले आहे. या नगरीत आर्थिक आणि व्यापारी उलाढाली इतक्या मोठ्या प्रमाणात होतात की देशाची आर्थिक राजधानी म्हणून या नगरीचा उल्लेख केला जातो. मुंबई हे प्राचीन काळी सात बेटांचा समूह होता. आज त्याचा विकास होऊन गजबजलेल्या मुंबईचे रूप आले आहे. औद्योगिक केंद्र असल्यामुळे इतर अनेक प्रांतातील लोकवस्ती इथे आढळते. त्यामुळे "विविधता मे एकता" ह्या हिंदी वाकप्रचाराचे हे एक उत्तम उदाहरण आहे. अशी ही मुंबई, आणि तसाच हा महाराष्ट्र.

मंगल देशा, पवित्र देशा, महाराष्ट्र देशा
प्रणाम घ्यावा माझा हा श्रीमहाराष्ट्र देशा



SCHOOL STUDENTS PAINTINGS ON THE OCCASION OF MAHARASHTRA DIN

1ST MAY 2021

- NAME: Ms. Ovi S GAIKAR;
GRADE: SR.KG PAWAR PUBLIC
SCHOOL, KANDIVLI (WEST)



Ovi Shailesh Gaikar
Pawar Public School
Kandivli (West)
Sr. kg

1 may
Maharashtra
Flag

- Theme : Maharashtra Flag

ISHA GAURAV CHITNIS - STD II



THEME : MAHARASHTRA DAY

NAME: MS. ISHA GAURAV
CHITNIS; GRADE: II,
BALMOHAN VIDYAMANDIR



**THEME : NATURAL
MATHERAN**

NAME: GARGI DHANANJAY
CHANGAN,

GRADE: 4, SWAMI
VIVEKANAND INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL, KANDIVALI WEST

NAME: PARTH AWARI,
GRADE 7 ST MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL,
MAZAGAON



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