

Herald Cafe



Destiny D'Souza

When YouTube becomes your go-to art teacher

In this digital age, YouTube has moved from being just a platform for entertainment to a learning tool for every generation. Youngsters are turning to YouTube to learn step-by-step tutorials of new artforms, turning hobbies into small businesses

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Crocheting a business from YouTube tutorials

Destiny D'Souza from Candolim, will begin her third year at St Xavier's College with a major in Psychology. She is in love with crochet, an art she learnt through YouTube. "It all started with a simple beginner tutorial. From learning how to hold the hook and make basic stitches to changing yarn colours and reading patterns, YouTube became my teacher. With consistent practice, I grew more confident and skilled in the art of crochet," explains Destiny. What began as a hobby has now turned into a small online business. "I create handmade crochet items like tops, bouquets, and more. I continue to rely on online tutorials to refine my techniques and stay inspired, and I hope to soon start designing and sharing my own patterns," she adds.



Turning a New Year resolution into a baking venture

About five months ago, Siddhi Parsekar from Porvorim started baking. It began as part of her New Year's resolution to do something creative this year. What started as a hobby slowly grew into something more meaningful. "I wanted to try something new. My neighbours and people from my village tasted my cakes. They really liked the taste and design and asked me to bake cakes for their children's birthdays. That encouragement made me think seriously about turning this hobby into a small business," says Siddhi, a law student. She shared her work through WhatsApp and her personal Instagram account but recently, created a separate account for her baking journey. "I had to put in a lot of practice and



effort. I learned everything from YouTube like how to make sponge, use cream, and perfect the small details. Compared to online videos, getting baking materials was easier thanks to local shops that cater specifically to bakers," says Siddhi, who finds joy in baking.



Turning DIY passion into a small business

Ridima Rajesh Banaulikar from Assonora, recently completed her Class 12 in the Arts stream. Her creative journey took off in 2021 when she began exploring DIY projects through YouTube. "I learned to make scrunchies and other hair accessories by watching tutorials online. YouTube is a good teacher because you can learn new things from the comfort of your home," says Ridima, for whom YouTube has played a huge role in inspiring her to start selling the products she made. "If you want to start your own business, you can learn something from YouTube and use that knowledge to start your business. I began promoting my creations through Instagram, which helped me reach more people and build confidence in what I do. I enjoy learning different forms of art and DIY crafts, and platforms like YouTube are powerful tools," adds Ridima.



Crafting creativity into a career

Rachel Elsie D'Mello from Pirna has completed her Class 12 in Arts and plans to continue her studies, but her creative journey began during the Covid-19 lockdown. Her interest in arts and crafts really grew and the best source to learn was YouTube. "I explored knitting, crochet, and jewellery-making using beads and woollen threads. I also made woollen caps by following YouTube tutorials, which opened the door to more forms of art and craft. I ventured into sketching, painting, tile painting, embroidery, flower making, fabric painting, and even creating decorative pieces from waste materials," explains Rachel. She began taking small orders for birthday party favours, wedding giveaways, and ring holders, turning her passion into a part-time business. "YouTube has helped learn so much more about different art forms that I can now source my material and design any piece of art," says Rachel, who recently completed a professional nail art course.



Exploring new techniques in art

Anika Amit Kelji from Sangolda recently completed her Class 12 in Commerce and is now preparing for the entrance exam for Fine Arts. She has been drawing since she was in Class 1 with the initial encouragement from her mother, Aditi. "I started exploring online platforms like YouTube and Instagram to learn new techniques. These online resources helped me a lot and I picked up new skills. Over the years, I've focused mainly on painting and pencil shading, and I'm currently working on self-portraits. While I haven't participated in any exhibitions yet, I've sold a few of my artworks to friends and family and am now looking to



expand my reach and explore more opportunities," says Anika. She shares most of her work through stories and posts on Instagram. "Though I'm from a commerce background, art has always been my passion and YouTube has helped me to learn more," adds Anika.



ART WITH A HEART: GOAN ARTISTS UNITE FOR A NOBLE CAUSE



25TH ANNUAL MAY QUEEN BALL IN QATAR

SWIPE RIGHT

Adidas vs. Puma: Legendary family feud set for TV adaptation



A new television series will explore the bitter feud between brothers Adolf ('Adi') and Rudolf ('Rudi') Dassler, whose rivalry led to the creation of Adidas and Puma in 1940s Germany. Backed by Hollywood producer No Fat Ego and with the support of the Adidas founding family, the series will draw from family archives, home videos, and memorabilia to tell the dramatic story. Scripted by 'Ozark' creator Mark Williams, the show will trace the brothers' split during World War II. Both brothers had joined the Nazi Party, a detail the series will approach with care given the brands' global reputations today. "Everybody knows the brands, but the story behind them is something we don't really fully know," Williams said at the Cannes film festival. Described as a Succession-type drama, the multi-generational series promises corporate intrigue and family conflict.

Jim Morrison bust recovered in France after 37 years

French police have recovered the long-lost bust of Jim Morrison, 37 years after it was stolen from his grave in Paris's Père Lachaise cemetery. The sculpture, created by Croatian artist Mladen Mikulin to mark the 10th anniversary of Morrison's death, vanished in 1988. It was rediscovered during an unrelated fraud investigation led by the Paris public prosecutor's office, according to a source close to the case. Morrison, frontman of the iconic rock band The Doors, died in Paris in 1971 at age 27. Though officially ruled a heart attack, the exact cause of death remains debated. Morrison's grave remains a pilgrimage site for fans.



Veteran actors Sharmila Tagore and Simi Garewal walked the Cannes Film Festival red carpet. Sharmila Tagore wore a green saree while Simi Garewal wore a white Karlo gown as they attended the screening of Satyajit Ray's 'Aranyer Din Ratri', showcased in a newly restored 4K version.

HOW TEACHERS IN GOA ARE USING AI TO UP THEIR GAME

Blending innovation with tradition, Goan educators share how they're using AI tools to enhance—but not replace—the teaching experience



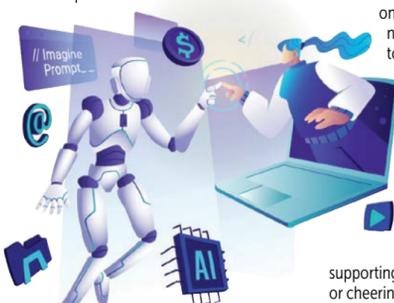
Tanisha Pawar

Artificial intelligence (AI) is becoming part of everyday life – from voice assistants to personalised recommendations. Now, it's making its way into classrooms across Goa. Teachers are using AI tools to plan lessons, create custom exercises, and engage students more effectively. But while AI brings exciting innovations, educators emphasise that it cannot replace the human connection at the heart of teaching. For Pritesh Shankar Lalita Patil, who teaches Mathematics and Science at Shri Shantadurga School, Bicholim, AI is a

valuable classroom aid. "I use AI tools like ChatGPT and SolarGPT to create multiple practice paper sets and enhance class presentations," he explains. He appreciates AI's ability to make lessons more engaging and reduce repetitive tasks but cautions that over-reliance might undermine the human element in teaching. "Each child is different, and AI doesn't understand classroom dynamics the way a teacher does," he says.

Mahabal Bhat, a Sanskrit teacher at St. Xavier's HSS, Mapusa, has made limited use of AI tools—primarily for preparing visuals for presentations. Though he sees value in AI's ability to save time and enhance content delivery, he emphasises the importance of human oversight. "Natural intelligence is always more powerful than AI," he comments. Jonquil Gisela Sudhir, Assistant

Professor at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, says AI has changed her teaching practice not because she uses it herself, but because her students do. "While assigning tests or assignments, I have to think of ways to ensure students don't merely use AI to get the work done" she explains.



She acknowledges AI's empowering potential but also raises concerns about its overuse among students.

Saili Swapnil Parab, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies at Narayan Zantye College, Bicholim, uses ChatGPT to save time in research. However she cautions that excessive dependence on AI from students may negatively affect their capacity to read textbooks and academic journals. "I suggest introducing—How to use AI tools with complete knowledge and guidance," she recommends.

Most teachers are unanimous on one thing: Human Connection in education is irreplaceable. Whether it's setting values, supporting students emotionally, or cheering for them outside the

classroom—these responsibilities remain uniquely human.

"It's all about exploration," says Pritesh. "AI helps make teaching more engaging and allows us to become better facilitators of learning." While some educators remain cautious, many agree that AI should serve as a supportive tool, not a replacement.

The growing presence of AI in education brings immense potential. But as teachers remind us, meaningful learning depends not just on tools, but on thoughtful guidance. With careful use, AI can help unlock student potential while preserving the vital role of teachers as mentors, role models, and guides.

AI isn't replacing teachers—it's helping them.

