

Goa celebrates nature's bounty at the 19th Konkani Fruit Fest



The Botanical Society of Goa organized the 19th edition of the Konkani Fruit Fest in association with Our Lady of Rosary Church, Navelim, at the Rosary High School Ground. The Directorate of Agriculture, Goa College of Agriculture, Forest Department, and other government agencies collaborated for the event.

The Konkani Fruit Fest was held with the aim of celebrating and promoting the local fruits of Goa and the Konkani region. A wide variety of

fresh fruits were displayed, and nursery plants, processed food products, manures, and other agricultural essentials were available for sale by individual vendors and private companies.

The event commenced with the receipt of fresh fruits, which included four to five fruits each of mango, chickoo, cashew, carambola, and love apple; 5-6 bulbs of jackfruit; a single fruit of pineapple and papaya; and at least a dozen berries per entry. The Best Honey Competition was also held as part of the inauguration.

All entries were judged by esteemed experts with professional backgrounds in agriculture. Three winners were selected from each category, and cash prizes along with certificates were awarded in the evening.

A Fancy Dress Competition for children was conducted in the



evening, along with the acceptance of entries for various processed fruit products such as juices, squashes, wines, jams, pickles, cakes, chutneys, souffles, and jellies. A Drawing Competition for children and sport activities like the Fruit Eating Competition and Guess the Fruit Weight were also held.

A free demonstration was conducted by Daniel D'Souza. Additionally, the prize

33RD ANNUAL HOME GARDEN COMPETITION WINNERS

ON GROUND
First Prize - Bernice Nayak, Dona Paula
First Prize - Suresh Putu Naik, Ponda
Second Prize - Dr Dipti Dhum, Taleigao
Third Prize - Vanessa Pinto, Betim

ON TERRACE
First Prize - Shilpa Mense, Mapusa
Second Prize - Zerina Fernandes, Parra
Third Prize - Rahul Samant, Curcholem
Appreciation Prize - Peter Singh & Neeno Kaur, Dona Paula

ON BALCONY
First Prize - Prachita Naik, Ponda
Second Prize - Eduardo Sequeira, Vasco
Second Prize - Sharda Mangaonkar, Chimbil
Third Prize - Harshita Agasgekar, Canca - Verla

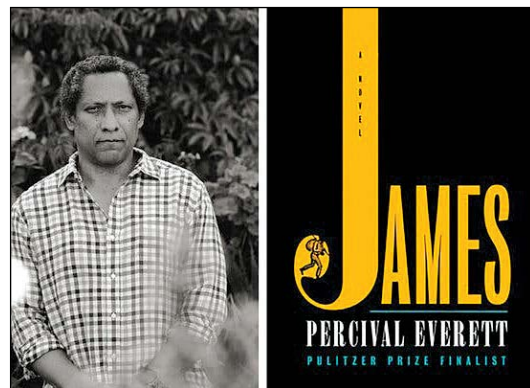
INSTITUTIONAL
First Prize - Nella Miranda - Papa Joe's, Carmona
Second Prize - Yashodan Heblekar - Mystic Woods, Ponda
Third Prize - Chubby Cheeks Spring Valley High School, Pilerne

KITCHEN GARDEN
First Prize - Damiao Fernandes, Parra
Second Prize - Sandra Del Maria Pereira, Cansaulim

distribution ceremony for the 33rd Annual Home Garden Competition took place during the event.

The 2025 Pulitzer Prize winning books

Percival Everett's novel was honoured at the 2025 awards, along with other books in the categories of fiction, general nonfiction, memoir, poetry, history and biography. Nineteen books were recognized as winners or finalists for the Pulitzer Prize including history, which had two winners.



BIOGRAPHY
'Every Living Thing: The Great and Deadly Race to Know All Life' by Jason Roberts

Roberts explores the intertwined legacies of Carl Linnaeus, the Swedish biologist and physician who is known as the founding father of taxonomy, and Georges-Louis Leclerc, Comte de Buffon, an aristocratic French naturalist, mathematician, and cosmologist. Both men set out to catalogue and define life, but had different approaches. Roberts makes the case that Buffon had greater insights, among them his beliefs that racial differences are superficial and that living creatures are shaped by their environments.

MEMOIR OR AUTOBIOGRAPHY
'Feeding Ghosts: A Graphic Memoir' by Tessa Hulls

The author embarked on a book project to better understand three generations of women in her Chinese American family, despite never having drawn comics and not speaking Chinese. As Hulls dove into the lives of her grandmother — a journalist who fled Shanghai for Hong Kong and her mother, who attended boarding school in Hong Kong before coming to the United States in 1970.

Fiction
'James' by Percival Everett

Imagine 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' but told from the perspective of Jim, the enslaved man who travels with Huck. That's exactly what author Percival Everett does in 'James', a powerful and totally fresh take on Mark Twain's iconic story. In this version, James is painfully aware of the dangerous world around him. The book tackles issues like racism and violence but it also mixes in sharp humour, deep ideas, and fast-paced action. James reads like an epic road trip with real heart and meaning. It's no wonder it won the 2024 National Book Award and was on "best of the year" lists.

GENERAL NONFICTION
'To the Success of Our Hopeless Cause: The Many Lives of the Soviet Dissident Movement' by Benjamin Nathans

Benjamin Nathans, a historian at the University of Pennsylvania, combed through KGB case files, unpublished diaries and private correspondence to write this exhaustive account based on two decades of research. While many have dated the dissolution of Soviet totalitarianism to the 1980s, he makes the case that opposition to Soviet oppression began decades earlier.

POETRY
New and Selected Poems, by Marie Howe

'What the Living Do,' addressed to a dead brother, the speaker recites a litany of everyday hassles. The numerous biblically themed poems are grounded in concrete detail. This overview seals Howe's reputation as one of the major poets of her generation.

HISTORY
'Native Nations: A Millennium in North America' by Kathleen DuVal

In 'Native Nations,' author and professor at the University of North Carolina, Kathleen DuVal, dives deep into the stories of hundreds of Indigenous nations across the United States. Using both oral traditions and written records, the book which won the prestigious Bancroft Prize brings to life voices and histories that are often left out of textbooks.

'Combee: Harriet Tubman, the Combahee River Raid, and Black Freedom during the Civil War' by Edda L. Fields-Black

In her account of the 'Combahee River Raid,' Fields-Black examines a lesser-known chapter of Harriet Tubman's life, as a leader in a military operation in 1863. Fields-Black draws on extensive documents, among them Tubman's US Civil War pension file, to reveal how Tubman commanded a group of scouts and spies to lead military expeditions during the war.

Novena and feast of St Ana at Raia

The feast of St Ana will be celebrated at Raia with the first day of the Novena beginning on May 9 with the Rosary at 7 am, followed by Maddi, and the Novena mass at 7:30 am. On Saturday and Monday to Friday, the Rosary will be recited at 7:15 am, followed by mass. On May 11, the Rosary will begin at 7:45 am, followed by mass at 8 am. On May 15, Children's mass will be celebrated. On May 17, Vesper will be held at 6:30 pm and the Feast will be celebrated on May 18 with the Mass at 9:30 am.

Venue: St Ana Chapel, Solva, Raia.
Date: May 9 to 18

Ukulele crash course

A beginner friendly ukulele crash course will be conducted by Ruth Costa over just six days. All is needed is a pick and a strum and one can learn to play the musical instrument. No prior experience is required. The course will be online and offline only on Saturdays and Sundays.

Venue: Caranzalem
Date: May 10 to 25
Time: 3 pm - 4 pm (online)
4 pm - 5 pm (offline)

Confluence of Festivals celebrated at Pilar

Followers of seven faith traditions converged on Pilar Hillock to celebrate their respective festivals at the Pilar Pilgrim Centre. Sneha Sangam, meaning "confluence of love," is a unique interreligious programme conceived by Sadbhav, an initiative of the Pilar Pilgrim Centre under the Society of Pilar, to foster interfaith dialogue and solidarity.

The day was marked by festival reflections, prayers, cultural celebrations, and a fellowship meal featuring dishes associated with the various festivals. Participants were welcomed with kokum sharbat, a traditional Goan drink.

Capt Jehangir Talyerkhan, an experienced master mariner and a member of the Parsi community in Goa, spoke about Nowruz. Shireen Sidhwa then led the Ashem Vohu and Yatha Ahu Vairyo prayers, invoking the blessings of Ahura Mazda, the supreme God of the Zoroastrians.

Altaf Shah, administrator of Aashiyana, a charitable institution supporting underprivileged and orphaned girls, shared insights on Eid-ul-Fitr. This was followed by a prayer for healing, sadbhav (goodwill), and sneha (love), led by Rehan Ali, a member of the Students Islamic Organisation of India.

Vedamurti Dnyaneshwar Patil, acting principal of Swami Brahmanand Mahavidyalaya, Tapobhoomi, Kundaim, Ponda, spoke about Ram Navami. Students from the college then recited 'Aano Bhadrak Kratavo Yantu Vishvatah,' a Vedic mantra from the Rig Veda.

Rajesh Chheda, a member of the Jain community and a chartered



accountant by profession, spoke about Mahavir Jayanti. This was followed by the recitation of the Namokar Mantra by Kalpana Shah, President of the Goa Jain Samaj, along with Jayshree Patil.

Vaisakhi, celebrated by the Sikh community was also commemorated. Harpreet Singh, actively involved in various religious bodies across India, spoke about its significance and recited the Mool Mantra of the Sikh faith.

Joseph Marcel Fernandes, a former MBA professor at Christ University, Bangalore, shared on the celebration of Easter. This was followed by the singing of the Prayer of St Francis of Assisi, 'Make Me a Channel of Your Peace,' by Fr Peter Soares, a veteran missionary from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Kelina Chakma, a member of the Buddhist faith, spoke about Buddha Purnima. Rupashi Chakma, a graduate of Delhi University, recited the traditional Buddhist blessing Aham avero homi,

offering wishes for the well-being and happiness of all beings.

The event began with a welcome address by Fr Lawrence Fernandes, director of the Pilar Pilgrim Centre. Tallulah D'Silva introduced the programme, and Fr Joseph Caji Barreto paid tribute to Pope Francis, an ardent advocate of universal brotherhood, harmony, and peace.

The programme concluded with a short cultural segment. Fr Elvis Fernandes, convenor of Sadbhav, sang 'Yeh Pyar Ki Lehre,' accompanied by tabla maestro Prathamesh Chari. Prof Resham Bhamra presented a poem, and Rooshad Patel reflected on the concept of happiness through the teachings of Zarathustra.

Elaine Coelho and Vansh Naik compered the event, while Sahil Awasthi delivered the vote of thanks. The celebration concluded with a festive lunch, coordinated by Asim Shaikh, a core team member of Sadbhav.

Herald Gaming Console

Dilbert



Garfield



Wizard of id



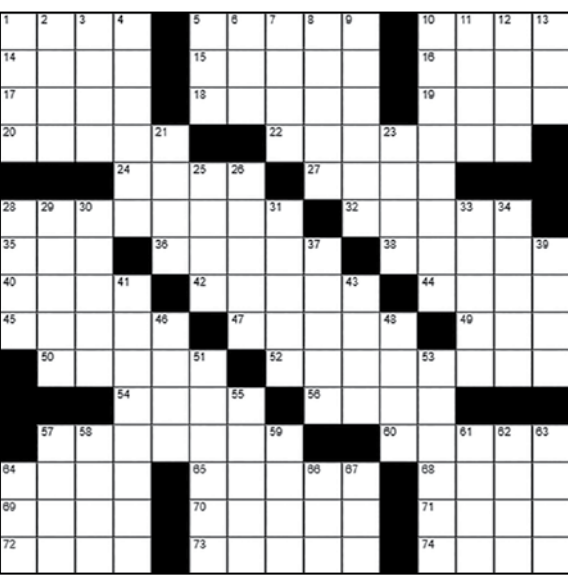
crossword 4839

ACROSS

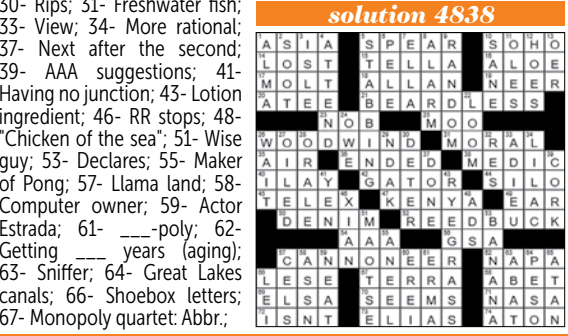
1- Yard tunnel; 5- Ides month; 10- Whistle blowers; 14- 1998 Sarah McLachlan hit; 15- City in Nebraska; 16- Wicked; 17- Capricorn's animal; 18- Patriot Allen; 19- Walkman maker; 20- Like some vbs.; 22- Not blind; 24- Decorate anew; 27- Banister; 28- Baffle; 32- Like non-oyster months; 35- Formula ____; 36- Kick off; 38- Academy award; 40- School orgs.; 42- Hawaiian greeting; 44- E-mailed; 45- Begets; 47- Constructed; 49- Society page word; 50- Atty-to-be exams; 52- Pants; 54- Doll's word; 56- Fender ding; 57- Throb; 60- Home run king Hank; 64- Zaire's Mobutu ____ Seko; 65- Less common or less cooked; 68- Up ____ good; 69- Minerals; 70- Judge or juror; 71- Yale students; 72- Years and mine; 73- Omigosh!; 74- Auld Lang ____;

DOWN

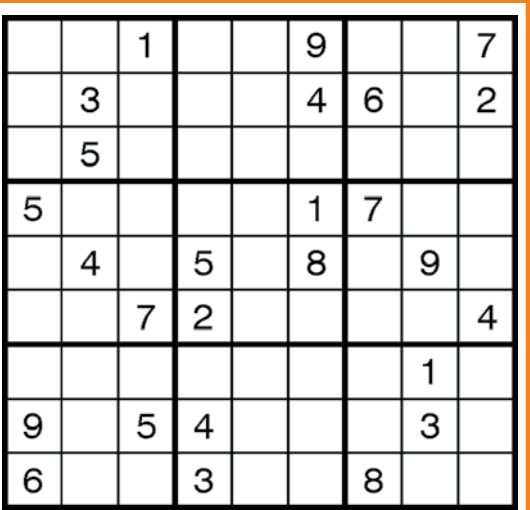
1- Biblical trio; 2- Smell or fragrance; 3- Person who is liable to tell untruths; 4- Diners; 5- A Stooze; 6- Qty.; 7- Stadium cheers; 8- Seat; 9- Shelter; 10- Uneasy; 11- Bacchanalian cry; 12- Discover; 13- Crafty; 21- Precious stones; 23- Hawaiian port; 25- Info; 26- Toothbrush brand; 28- 'My fault!'; 29- Wait ____ Dark;



solution 4838



sudoku 4839



Instructions for Sudoku

9 x 9 letter: To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes

solution 4838

