

Glimpses of India

A Baker from Goa

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1) What are the elders in Goa nostalgic about?

Ans) The elders in Goa are nostalgic about the good old Portuguese days, the Portuguese and their famous loaves of bread.

2) Is bread making still popular in Goa? How do you know?

Ans) Yes, bread-making is still popular in Goa. The author has described about the existence of fine-old furnaces and their still burning fire. The Goan society is having moulders, bread mixers and bakers.

3) What is the baker called?

Ans) The baker is known as pader.

4) When would the baker come everyday?
Why do the children run to meet him?

Ans) The baker came twice everyday, once when he set out in the morning on his selling round, and then again, when he returned after emptying his huge basket. The children ran to meet him not because of their love for the loaf, which was bought by maid servants of the house; they actually longed for the

bread bays, which they chose very carefully. Sometimes, it was a sweet bread of special make.

Q7) What did the bakers wear?

i) In the portuguese days?

Ans) In the portuguese days, the bakers had a peculiar dress, known as kabai. It was a single-piece long frock, reaching down the knees.

ii) When the author was young?

Ans) When the author was young, he saw the bakers wearing shirt and trousers, which was shorter than full-length ones and longer than half-pants.

6) Who invites the conner - "He is dressed like a padder"? Why?

Ans) Anyone who wears the half-pants that reach just below the knees invites the conner that "he is dressed like a padder". This is so ~~bakers~~ because bakers were known as padders and they wore such half-pants.

7) Where were the monthly accounts of the bakers recorded?

Ans) The monthly records of the bakers were recorded on some wall with pebbles.

Q) What does 'jackfruit-like appearance' mean?

Ans) A 'jackfruit-like appearance' means a plump physique. Such a physique was linked to the bakers because they never starved. Baking was a profitable profession. The baker, his family, and his servants ~~looked~~ always looked happy and prosperous, and had a 'jackfruit-like appearance'.

Q) Is bread an important part of our life? How do you know this?

Ans) Bread is an important part of Gora's life. Marriage gifts are meaningless without sweet bread bari. For a party, bread is a must, while for Christmas cakes and batinhas are a must. Sandwiches must be prepared by the lady of the house on her daughter's engagement. The author says everybody loves the fragrance of loaves. The elders were given loaves and the children were given bread bangles, which were longed for. Also, the fact that bakery

is a profitable profession shows that
the love for bread is enormous in
Goa.

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