

CLASS – 10

ENGLISH

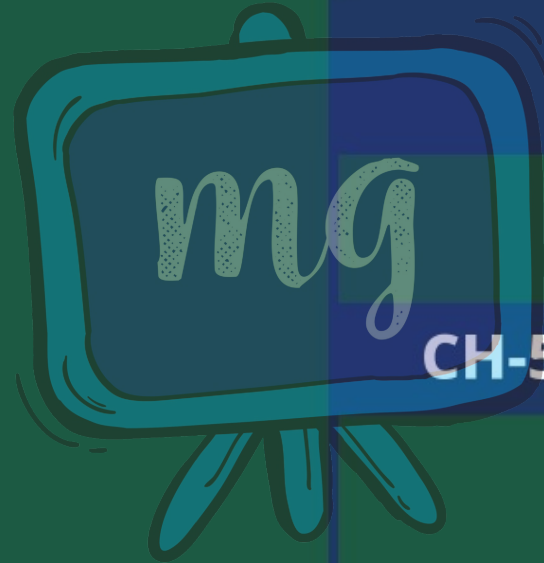
First Flight

CH-5 : Glimpses of India

Part – 1

A Baker from Goa

ARPITA SHARMA

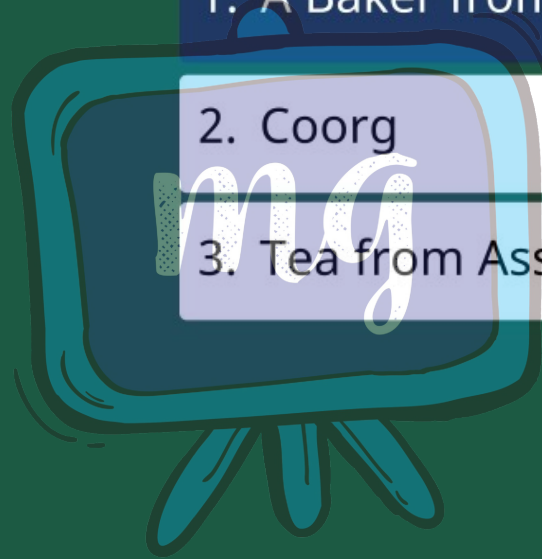


OVERVIEW

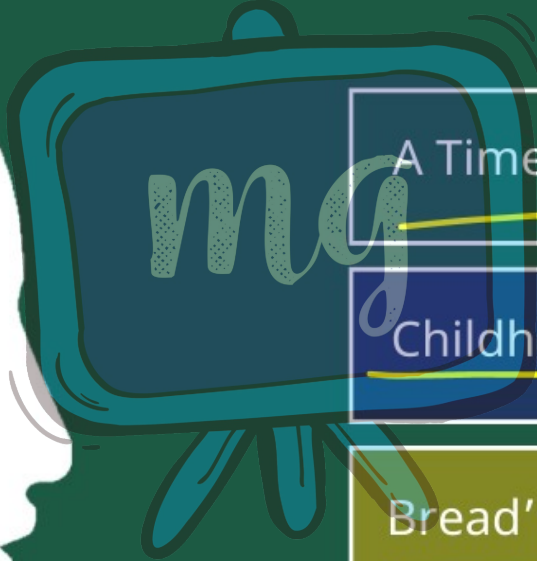
1. A Baker from Goa

2. Coorg

3. Tea from Assam



COMPETENCY BASED LEARNING



A Time - Honored Profession

Childhood Delights

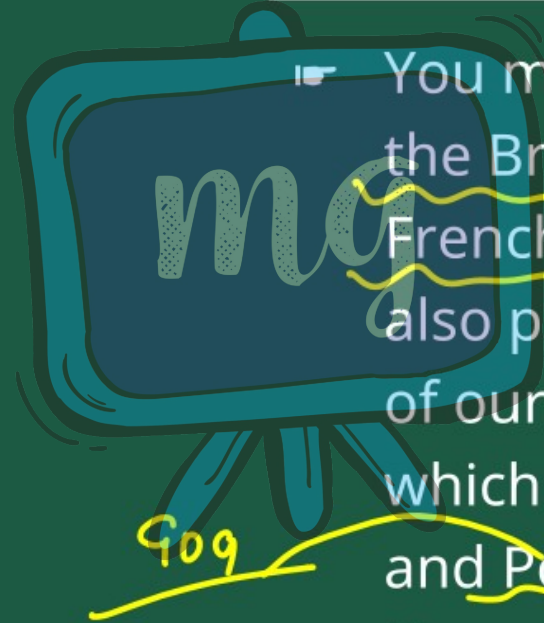
Bread's Importance in Celebrations



LUCIO RODRIGUES (1916-73)

was one of the few outstanding Konkani essayists. He wrote several articles in English and Konkani. A touch of humour and informal narration are well-known features of his style. The passage describes village bakers who played an important role by baking traditional Portuguese loaves of bread.

BEFORE YOU READ



- ▮ You may know that apart from the British, the Dutch and the French, the Portuguese have also played a part in the history of our country. Can you say which parts of India show French and Portuguese influences? Pondicherry
- ▮ Can you say which parts of India grow (i) tea, (ii) coffee? Assam Coorg

I. A BAKER FROM GOA

This is a pen-portrait of a traditional Goan village baker who still has an important place in his society.



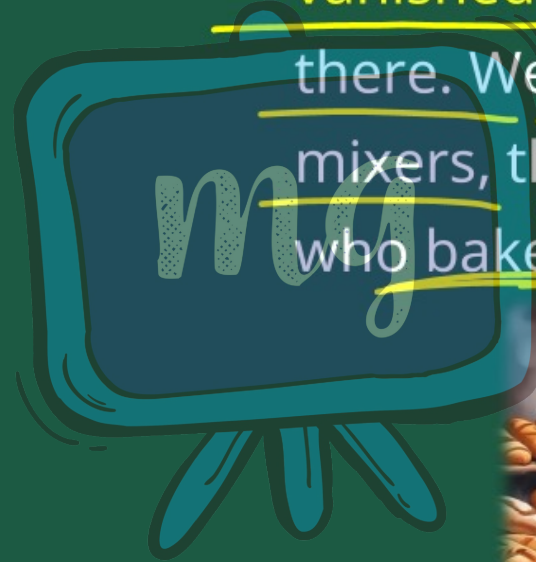
Author

OUR elders are often heard
reminiscing nostalgically about
those good old Portuguese days,
the Portuguese and their famous
loaves of bread.

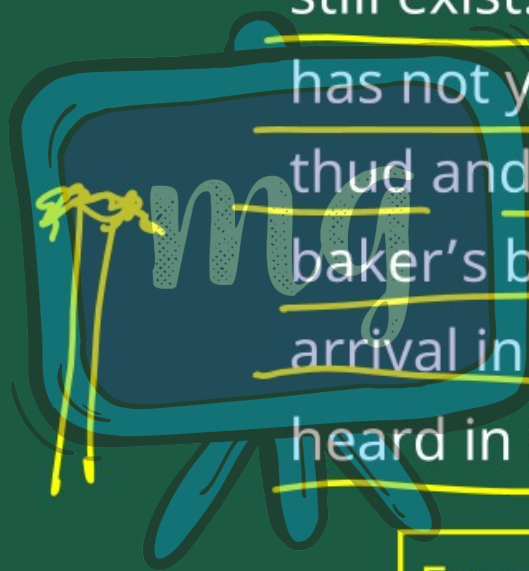


Reminiscing : पुरानी बाते खुशी से याद रखना
Nostalgically

Those eaters of loaves might have vanished but the makers are still there. We still have amongst us the mixers, the moulders and those who bake the loaves.



Vanished : गायब होना



Those age-old, timetested **furnaces** still exist. The fire in the furnaces has not yet been **extinguished**. The thud and jingle of the traditional baker's bamboo, **heralding** his arrival in the morning, can still be heard in some places.

Furnaces	:	भट्टी
Extinguished	:	बुझना
Heralding	:	घोषणा करना

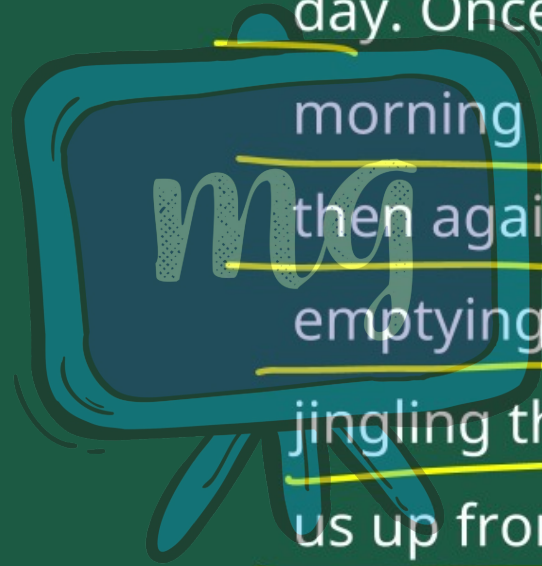
Maybe the father is not alive but
the son still carries on the family
profession. These bakers are, even
today, known as pader in Goa.

During our childhood in Goa, the
baker used to be our friend,
companion and guide.

Companion : साथी

Baker

He used to come at least twice a day. Once, when he set out in the morning on his selling round, and then again, when he returned after emptying his huge basket. The jingling thud of his bamboo woke us up from sleep and we ran to meet and greet him.



Why was it so? Was it for the love of
the loaf? Not at all. The loaves were
bought by some Paskine or Bastine,
the maid-servant of the house!

What we longed for were those
bread-bangles which we chose
carefully.

maid



Longed For

:

इच्छा करना

Sometimes it was sweet bread of special make.

The baker made his musical entry on the scene with the 'jhang, jhang' sound of his specially made

bamboo staff. One hand supported the basket on his head and the other banged the bamboo on the ground. He would greet the lady of

the house with "Good morning" and
then place his basket on the vertical
bamboo.

We kids would be pushed aside with
a mild **rebuke** and the loaves would
be delivered to the servant. But we
would not give up. We would climb a
bench or the parapet and peep into
the basket, somehow.

Rebuke : डाँट

Parapet : मुंडेर

I can still recall the typical fragrance
of those loaves. Loaves for the
elders and the bangles for the
children. Then we did not even care
to brush our teeth or wash our
mouths properly. And why should
we? Who would take the trouble of

Fragrance : खुशबू

plucking the mango-leaf for the
toothbrush? And why was it
necessary at all?

The tiger never brushed his teeth.
Hot tea could wash and clean up
everything so nicely, after all!

Marriage gifts are meaningless
without the sweet bread known as

Plucking : तोड़ना

the bol, just as a party or a **feast** loses its charm without bread. Not enough can be said to show how important a baker can be for a village. The lady of the house must prepare sandwiches on the occasion of her daughter's engagement.

✓ Feast : दावत

Cakes and bolinhas are a must for
Christmas as well as other festivals.



Thus, the presence of the baker's
furnace in the village is **absolutely
essential**.

The baker or bread-seller of those
days had a **peculiar** dress known as
the kabai. It was a singlepiece long
frock reaching down to the knees.



Absolutely	:	पूरी तरह से
Essential	:	आवश्यक
Peculiar	:	अजीब

In our childhood we saw bakers wearing a shirt and trousers which were shorter than full-length ones and longer than half pants. Even today, anyone who wears a half pant which reaches just below the knees invites the comment that he is dressed like a pader!

Baker



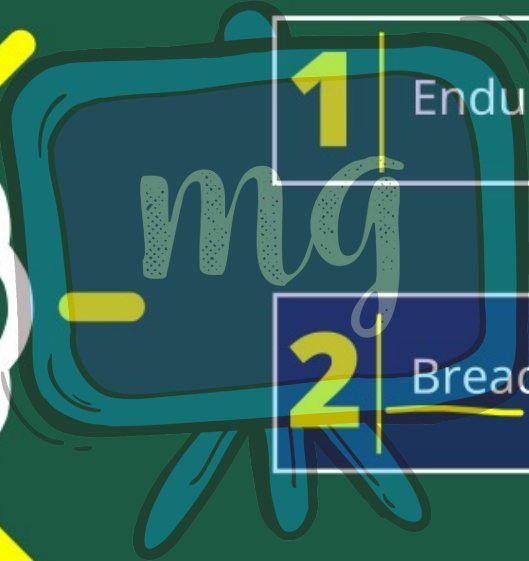
The baker usually collected his bills at the end of the month. Monthly accounts used to be recorded on some wall in pencil. Baking was indeed a profitable profession in the old days. The baker and his family never starved.

Profitable	:	लाभदायक
Starved	:	भूखा मरना

He, his family and his servants
always looked happy and
prosperous. Their plump physique
was an open testimony to this. Even
today any person with a jackfruit-
like physical appearance is easily
compared to a baker.

Plump Physique : मोटा/गोलमटोल शरीर
Open Testimony : खुला प्रमाण या साक्ष्य

LEARNING OUTCOMES



1 Enduring Tradition (Long History)

2 Bread : A staple for Feasts

ASSESSMENT

1

In the author's childhood, what did the children eagerly await from the baker?

- A News from other villages
- B Free samples of bread loaves
- C Specially made bread bangles
- D The chance to buy something for themselves

2

What sound announced the baker's arrival in the mornings?

- A The clanging of pots and pans
- B A loud whistle he blew
- C The jingling of his bamboo staff
- D A song he sang while walking